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THIRD

To Improve the Soil and the Mind.

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THE CULTIVATOR has been published twenty-four years. A NEW SERIES was commenced in 1853, and the five volumes for 1853, 4, 5, 6, 7, can be furnished, bound and post-paid, at \$1.00 each.

The same publishers issue "THE COUNTRY GENTLEMAN," a weekly Agricultural Journal of 16 quarto pages, making two vols. yearly of 416 pages, at \$2.00 a year. They also publish

THE ILLUSTRATED ANNUAL REGISTER OF RURAL AFFAIRS—144 pp. 12 mo. — price 25 cents — \$2.00 per dozen. This work was commenced in 1855, and the nos. for 1855, '56 and '57, have been issued in a beautiful volume, under the title of "RURAL AFFAIRS,"—containing 440 engravings of Houses, Barns, Out-Houses, Animals, Implements, Fruits &c.—price \$1.00—sent by mail post-paid.

The Culture of Indian Corn.

Nothing is better known in agricultural matters, than that farmers differ widely in the culture of Indian corn. They differ in the depth of plowing the land; and in the season of the year in which they plow greensward for a succeeding crop of corn. Some farmers invariably "break up" their grass lands in autumn—others always in the spring. They differ greatly, too, in the manner of applying the manures; in the distance and way of planting the seed, and also in the culture of the growing plants.

Some farmers only make use of the hoe in eradicating the weeds, and in pulverizing and stirring the surface soil. Others use the horse-hoe, plow, cultivator or light harrow, &c, stirring the soil "wide and deep," and make very little, or no use of the hand-hoe in their cornfields. Doubtless, each farmer or planter believes his own way of culture the best.

The circumstances of farmers vary so greatly, their soils are so different, and the seasons are frequently so unlike that it would be folly to prescribe any one method to be practiced by all corn-growers. But all are aware that there is frequently a material difference in the yield of corn per acre, among farmers in the same neighborhood, whose lands and means are apparently alike. The variation in the products under such circumstances, is frequently the result of a difference in the preparation of the land, and the culture given the growing crop.

We have been led to pen the foregoing remarks, from having recently read the published statements of two practical farmers, whose methods of cultivating corn widely differ.

In the *Homestead*, of 12th of Nov., Mr. R. R. PHELPS of Manchester, Conn., gives an account of his method of cultivating corn. He plants his corn in hills three feet distant each way, never using the hand-hoe in his cornfield but once during the season. He says: "When the rows can be fairly seen, I go through with the horse-hoe, (Ruggles'.) When the corn is of a suitable size, larger than we ordinarily weed, I cross the field with the horse-hoe, and give a thorough hand-hoeing, carefully cleaning the weeds from the hills, and thin to three stalks in the hill. After this, I use the horse-hoe as the state of the ground requires, generally twice, crossing each time. In cultivating in this manner, it is absolutely necessary to success, to begin before the weeds get strongly rooted, and go as near the rows as possible."

On alluvial and other soils free from rocks and other obstructions, we have no doubt but that a corn-field can be kept pretty clear of weeds, by the frequent use of either the horse hoe, cultivator, harrow, or skimp-low, with only once using the hand hoe; and perhaps it may be done at a much less cost of labor than by cultivating wholly with the hand hoe. But whether the crop of corn would be as large when cultivated by Mr. P.'s method, as it would be if the hand hoe alone was used, is a question that perhaps is worth discussing. It is possible that a field of corn where the hand hoe alone was used, might yield a sufficiently larger number of bushels to more than pay the extra expense of cultivating wholly with the common hoe. However we are not wholly sure upon this point, but think it a matter of sufficient importance to warrant farmers in trying, side by side, the two methods, on a small scale at least; keeping an accurate account of the time or labor expended in each method, and also the difference of yield in the two experiments.

Every new rootlet put forth by a growing plant, is an additional mouth to supply the plant with additional food. The more the roots of a corn plant are cut off or mutilated by the horse hoe, or any other implement, the less power it possesses of appropriating its food from the soil, and consequently the growth of the plant in all its parts will be lessened.

A few years since we planted a well prepared field with corn; the rows were struck out by a marker, three feet apart. Fearing loss of the plants by worms, there were from six to nine kernels dropped in each hill. At the first hoeing we plucked up the surplus plants, and found each had sent out one main root, with numerous short side-rootlets. The main roots were from 12 to 20

inches in length; many of them having grown from opposite hills, so as to meet in the center of the rows. Now if we had run the horse hoe, or plow, "as near the hills as possible," it is our impression that we should have cut off or mutilated a large portion of the roots, (especially if the implement had been drawn both ways of the rows,) and thereby have done much injury to the growing plants. In the culture of this field, it being a well prepared, light soil, the hand hoe alone was used. The yield was fully sixty bushels of corn per acre. We regret that Mr. Phelps had not given the number of bushels per acre he usually grows.

In the Transactions of the N. H. Ag. Society for 1856, we find a letter from Mr. Brown on the culture of corn. Mr. B. is the farmer who has long grown and given a wide-spread celebrity to that variety known as the "Brown or King Philip corn." Mr. B.'s farm is on an Island in Lake Winnepiseogee, in latitude 43° 40' N. Being so far north, it must be an early variety of corn to mature there.

We make some extracts from his letter, by which it will be seen that he and Mr. Phelps cultivate their corn in a very different manner.

Mr. B. says: "It is a fact that cannot be denied, that a large majority of our farmers content themselves by raising what they call a decent crop of corn, say twenty-five to thirty bushels per acre, and are hard to believe that any more can be raised. They go on in the old way, planting the rows four feet apart, or nearly that, and the hills three feet apart, putting from four to six kernels in the hill, and after the blades of the corn get a fine start, and the roots spread in all directions, *instead of going to work as they should do with a hoe*, and giving it a light brushing to stir the ground and keep the weeds down, they take a horse and cultivator, or plow, and *cut off half the roots*, and by making a large mound or hill, give the corn such a check that it never recovers from it. So managed as above stated, no farmer can expect a large crop of corn even if the ground is well manured."

"When I first went to farming for myself in 1817, I was hoeing my corn about the first of July, and making a hill as all farmers then did; the ground was not weedy, but I found that I was cutting off a great many little roots, which I ascertained to be the corn roots, and it struck me that I was hurting the corn by making the hill, and from that instant I left off making a hill around the corn, and have since that time left the ground among the corn as smooth as possible, and the remainder of my corn that year which I did not hill, was much the best, and the ears the largest."

Mr. B. has made many experiments as to the proper distance of planting his corn, the result of which is, that he plants the rows three feet distant, the hills two feet apart in the rows, leaving three stalks to each hill. Mr. B. has raised a premium crop of 136 bushels per acre, weighing 59 pounds per bushel of shelled corn. He gives an account of his crop raised in 1853, which amounted to 104 bushels of shelled corn to the acre, while the average yield in the vicinity of the lake was estimated at thirty to forty bushels.

Of this crop of 104 bushels per acre, he says—"On the 30th of May I planted my corn in hills, four kernels in each, three feet apart one way and two the other. When the corn was up about three inches high, it was neatly hoed, *without the aid of cultivator or plow*—

thinning out the plants three to each hill. In July the corn was again dressed with the hoe, without making any hill. I prefer working with the hand-hoe to clear the weeds from the plants, instead of the cultivator or plow, for when the latter are used they stir the ground too deep, cutting many of the tender rootlets of the corn, which greatly injures the crop. It has long been my practice to plow under a liberal coating of green manure a few days previous to planting, which in my judgment should lie undisturbed by any implement during the growth, in order that it may impart its whole benefit to the crop."

"We have a home market for all our surplus produce, in the manufacturing villages of this region. The present price of corn, (Dec. 1856) is \$1 per bushel. Estimating the profit of growing an acre, based on my last crop, the following would be near the truth:

104 bushels of corn at \$1.....	\$104.00
4 tons of husks and stalks at \$8,	32.00
	\$136.00

"The value of labor in the cultivation at 75 cts per day, was \$37, leaving a nett income of about \$100 per acre, for the use of the land and the manure."

In conclusion, we would again suggest to farmers that they should experiment in the cultivation of corn. Try Mr. Phelps' and Mr. Brown's manner of culture in the same field, carefully noting the difference of cost of labor and yield of corn, and give us the result for publication in our Co. Gent. and Cultivator next autumn or winter.

Ticks and Lice on Animals.

Answer to Thos. B. Buffum—see Co. Gent. 4th March.—I mean to be understood to say, if sheep are kept in a thriving condition from the time they are yarded in the fall, until they have good pasture, that they will have no ticks on them, or at least they will have so few that they will not be worth noticing, and require no application of any thing to destroy them. But there are causes of propagating ticks that require an observing eye to detect. In the first place, if yards are not regularly littered, and the sheep are forced to lay on their own dung, even if dry, they will not thrive; and then they will have ticks plenty, even if this littering should only be omitted for a few weeks; or if their yard is wet, so that their feet become soft, they lose condition, and ticks immediately follow; or should they have to feed on damaged hay for three weeks, ticks will follow. In fact any thing that impairs their health or growth, brings ticks; and very often the best wintered sheep are made to propagate ticks, by being turned to the pasture-fields in spring before the pasture has grown, and then they will have great quantities of ticks at shearing time. They go from the old sheep to the lambs. Keep your sheep thriving all the time, Mr. B., and the ticks will not trouble them. *This I know.*

Did Mr. B. ever see a well-fed, clean kept boy or girl, over-run with lice? I think not; but I have seen many ill-fed, ill-clothed, dirty kept ones so. Some such reasoning, how the human family should be kept, has led me to many improvements in keeping domestic animals, especially in good feeding, and plenty of air where cattle are stabled. What makes people propagate lice when crowded in the steerage of vessels for a month or more? Nothing but want of air and bad

feed; and nothing but bad feeding, want of air or cleanliness, makes sheep, cattle, or horses, *lousy*. If men would always do by their stock as they would wish to be done by if they were in their place, we would hear no more inquiries as to what will "kill ticks on sheep, or lice on cattle or horses. JOHN JOHNSTON.

Cure for Stretches in Sheep.

MESSRS. TUCKER & SON—I noticed in your last *Cultivator*, a communication from S. CONE, headed "Cure for Stretches in Sheep." He says "cut their throats, and take off their pelts," &c. Some years ago my sheep took a complaint, that I called the stretches, having never seen or heard of the like before. Whether it was the proper stretches or the belly-ache, I know not; but one thing is certain, I lost quite a number with it before I could obtain a remedy. One day in conversation with a brother-in-law, knowing that he kept quite a number of sheep, I asked him if his sheep ever had the stretches, to which he replied in the affirmative, and said that they had always died. A little daughter of his, standing by, spoke up and said, "why no, father, that winter when you and mother were gone to Ohio, there were a number that had it. Rice (his little brother) and I gave them red pepper tea, and cured every one that took it." I had tried quite a number of remedies to no effect, but I thought I would try the pepper on the next one taken with it, which I did, and I have not lost one since. My method is to take two or three pods, put them in a pint tin cup, pour on boiling water, and let it stand on the stove until well steeped, and then set away to cool. Take a common tunnel, put the small end in the sheep's mouth, and hold up its head so that it will run down. If the sheep should commence to cough, stop until it quits and recovers its breath. If taken at the commencement, one dose generally suffices. If in the space of half a day or so, the symptoms did not abate, I should repeat the dose. A. G. WEBSTER. *Union Mills, Ind.*

Culture of the Potato.

THE ONE-EYE SYSTEM.

MESSRS. EDITORS—My article on potato culture, in the present volume, (page 11) has caused a great many inquiries to me by letter, all of which I have cheerfully answered; but to all inquiries I could not go into detail, as it would occupy my whole time to do so. I shall now explain all that may have been omitted in that article. My reason for not going more into particulars, was that I had last year (vol. 9, p. 394 and 411,) written an article on the one-eye system, which I published to contradict a statement made in a previous number that "cut potatoes" would not do, and that all who wanted good potatoes should plant a potato weighing so many ounces. This rather touched me, and I gave my practice. Had it not been for that article, I should not have thought mine worth publishing, thinking that my system was too well known to be written about. As it is, I am glad that I have been the means of introducing a good system into practice, which will yet be the rule and not the exception. It is an economical as well as a better system, which will be more generally admitted when tried. Of course to men who raise potatoes to sell for planting as a business, it is an object to get buyers to take the largest quantity for that purpose, but instead of a man having

to buy eighteen bushels of potatoes to plant an acre, by the one-eye system six bushels will sufficiently answer his purpose, and give him a better yield; and when a man raises a really good fruit or vegetable, he can sell it faster than his supply, even by giving to the buyers the most economical way of raising it.

I have been asked "why" I adopted the one-eye system. I had at one time a field of early potatoes, when at the latter end of May we had a very severe frost, at which time my potato stems were four and five inches high. The sets were cut three eyes to each; the frost cut them completely off; I then concluded to sow with turnips. In ten days afterwards one stem appeared to each set, and quite regularly in the drills; I then determined to let them remain and see the result, and I found them when digging, to be the best crop I had ever raised. This was conclusive evidence to me that one eye was better than three; and the potatoes were of a much even size than any I had ever grown. Since then I have grown altogether on the one-eye system on all soils. It will be seen that I have taken premiums on my potatoes at other Societies than ours, by reference to last year's article. It has been said that our land is suited to the potato, and so my fine crops. Such is not the case. Ours is not a potato soil, and as to a fine crop, I do not consider it such. I have seen land in this and other States, on which I could double it. I shall not be surprised to hear of some of your readers turning out next fall four hundred bushels of "Prince Albert potatoes" to the acre, on the one-eye system; but then if they wish this, they must make up their minds whether they intend growing weeds or potatoes. To grow potatoes well, you must not let a weed be seen. Keep your ground stirred; harrow, plow and cultivate until they come into bloom; then use no tools among them. If you keep them properly cultivated up to that time, they will not require hand weeding when in this stage; if you do not do this, you need not expect a paying crop. This is also an important point, as at this stage the tubers set, and by working them you deteriorate their growth materially.

My object in cutting the potato (explained in last year's article,) a month before planting, and mixing with hot lime, is to dry up the cuts, which it will do, and shrivel them completely up, (a good sign.) When planted, they immediately start to grow, and you will see your eye bursting a nice blue top. The set being completely dry, there is no danger of their rotting in the ground; whereas if put in the ground as soon as cut, they lay dormant until this cut heals, and if wet weather, they are liable to rot. Another reason: Before planting you see your eyes bursting, and you need plant only such as are good. You will then have no vacancies in your drills. By cutting so far ahead, you set them earlier, as the moment you cut them is like planting them; they commence growing the moment you mix them with lime; whereas if planted at that time, the ground being cold and wet, they would be likely to rot. When you have them cut, you need not care being a week behind or before in planting. One thing must be observed when they are cut, that is, they must not be put into a dark hot cellar. Place them where they will have plenty of light, and if there is any danger of frost at night, cover them over, (removing in day time.) If placed in a cellar, they commence to burst their eyes, and not having light they

will be white and spindly, completely drawn and good for nothing. By being in a garret or some such place, they burst strong. Let it not be supposed that if the eye should be broken off that the set is lost. If kept dry it will immediately throw out another sprout. Let any that may be skeptical on this point cut and prepare as above, and cut and plant the same day, as is the common practice, and note the result. I could prove in writing that the former would be the best, but it would be wasting time and paper. Practice is better than theory.

To cut a potato to advantage, requires a little practice. I here give directions how to do it, which by following you will soon be an adept. Hold your potato in your left hand; cut the root end completely off, as the eye by the root should never be planted; it only produces small and watery potatoes. Your next eye cut something like a half moon, observing not to cut through another eye; then turn you potato, and you next eye will be angular, your next half moon, your next angular, and so on. Then the top of your potato (where there are a cluster of eyes,) will in general be flat, when properly cut; those you cut in single eyes, and you should be careful and keep all of those separate from your other cuts, as those should be planted by themselves, as they will ripen their tubers from a week to a fortnight earlier than the rest. I always have two sets of hands to cut them—one to cut off the tops and throw them by themselves, and the other to cut from that to the root end, reserving the top to be cut carefully for early use. This, to any one who requires early potatoes, will be an advantage.

I send two "Prince Albert potatoes"—one whole and the other cut, so that if the editors wish to give a drawing of them,* it will be seen at glance what I mean. The whole one will show what the Prince Albert is, which I think would be acceptable, as so many want to know what the potato is in size, color, &c. It is no humbug, as all can assert who have grown it, and will, I think, yet be our principal potato, east, west, north and south.

I have grown most of the potatoes at present in cultivation, and I said in my article last year that the Prince Albert potato was our best. It is suited to all our soils, and all say it does not rot. In a brief notice, from the "N. Y. Tribune," in a recent number of the "Country Gentleman," (p. 154,) it is called an early potato. To all inquiries to me on this point, I could not answer, not having tried them as such, but I can say it is a good late one. The article in the Tribune gives a just description of our best potatoes, which corresponds with descriptions I had sent to private writers.

Some may object to the present price of the Prince Albert potatoes, (although I have heard of none doing so,) but I can assure them that they are cheaper at twelve dollars a barrel than any other I know of would be at two dollars a barrel, for seed; at the same time I wish it to be distinctly understood, that I do not say this with the view of selling them. I could at present sell all that we have got to one individual at our advertised prices, but I shall give the readers of the "Country Gentleman" the preference, for the reason that all the potatoes I send out are genuine. When I first got them, I had six other varieties mixed with them. In cutting, I sorted out as near as I could, and in digging

in the fall of 1856, I again sorted, and got them clean. Those who may purchase from unknown parties, should be careful in cutting and digging, to do as I did.

As to flat culture and high earthing, both are *best*. It will be seen by my last year's "article," that I grew them on a level surface without any earthing. This year I grew them in drills, well earthed up. If the advocates of both systems were to state how their land lay, flat or side-hill, heavy or light loam, then we could judge for ourselves, as to which system would be best suited to our individual soil; for instance, if I intended growing potatoes on a low flat piece of land, not underdrained, and where the rains would lay, I should grow them in drills according to my last year's practice, (high drills;) if I grew on side-hill, or on ground that I was sure the water would not lay on, I should grow them on the flat system, which, when applicable, I prefer. The quality of the soil you intend to grow on, must also be a guide to you as to the system you should adopt. If a very heavy loam, I should adopt the high drill system, as by it you pulverize the soil and make it mellow. A good crop can be got off soil of this description by the high drill system, whereas if the flat system were adopted on this heavy soil, you would not succeed in getting a fourth of a crop. If your soil is light, adopt the flat system; if you undertake the high drill system on light soil, our heavy rains will wash it down, and our tropical sun will burn your roots, and you have no crop, where, if you had grown on the flat system, you would have had a full crop. Use the roller freely on a light soil to compress it tightly, and on a heavy soil use your heavy and light harrow freely. Men, adopting a system from a written article, should fully understand that the same practice is applicable to their soil, and that a system which would be best for one field, should be reversed on another, thus adapting the system to the condition of the field. Out of this one thing proceeds most of the difference of opinion as to which is best of the different systems. As to potato culture, the one-eye system is applicable to light and heavy soils. If there is any thing in this article that is not clearly understood, I shall willingly answer. GERALD HOWATT. *Newton, New-Jersey.*

Liniment for Swellings on Animals.

EDS. CULT. AND CO. GENT.—I noticed in the Dec. Cultivator, an inquiry from Mr. E. M. GUFFIN, Iowa, respecting a hard, callous swelling, which he says came on midway between the eye and nostril. I purchased a three year old colt two years ago, which had a swelling on the same place as described above, which was an objection among the horse buyers, who prized her \$25 less, and feared to buy at all. I ventured to purchase, and apply what I thought might scatter it. The owner said it came on about a month before I bought her, but did not know the cause of it. I applied the following liniment, and in less than three months the swelling disappeared wholly. I consider it the best liniment extant for swellings on man or beast.

Apply once a day, and rub it briskly:

Half an ounce spirits of hartshorn.

One gill spirits turpentine.

Half-pint sweet oil.

One pint alcohol.

Two ounces gum camphor. (Dissolve the camphor in the alcohol.) A. WILLARD, JR. *Hartford.*

Propagating Dwarf Box.

Will you or some one knowing in such matters, inform a subscriber how to manufacture "box edging," material aid being on hand in the shape of a couple of cart-loads of fine, thrifty bushes two feet or more in height?

Whether the cuttings need shade? Whether they must be taken from the top or bottom of the plant? Whether they should be planted in rows to work among, or in "beds" for mutual protection, and anything else expedient for a novice to know, who wishes to exercise himself thereon both to pleasure and profit. C. P. Paoli, 3d mo. 15

Cuttings are often grown without shade, but they are more certain to live and do better if protected from the sun's rays. The best shading for nursery culture is a high tight board fence or building on the south side; because, even after the plants become well established, they preserve a fine green appearance at all times, if protected from the sun's rays. If unshaded, the shining of the sun upon them after intense cold, is sure to turn them brown and injure their appearance. But if this kind of shading cannot be had, the next best is to employ boards about a foot wide, which are placed over their edges, and inclined over the row of cuttings, or rather the double row, for one board will shade two rows set three inches apart. A space of a foot may be left between each of these double rows—and will be kept clean by the hoe. Fig. 1.

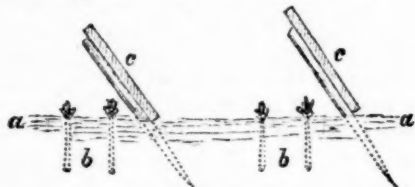


Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

Fig. 1. End view of rows of box cuttings newly set out, and shaded with boards. *a a*, surface of the ground; *b b*, double rows of cuttings; *c c*, boards nailed to inclined stakes. Fig. 2. A prepared box cutting.

The cuttings may be taken wherever they can be found, provided they are some five or six inches long. The leaves are to be stripped from three-fourths of the lower part, as shown in fig. 2, and they are then set upright in the earth, which is to be closely packed about them. They may be about an inch apart in the rows, to be afterwards transplanted to three inches apart when set out for edging.

Pruning Old Apple Trees.

MESSRS. EDITORS—What shall I do to old apple trees that, having had large limbs cut off, are now rotted into the trunk nearly a foot? What month is the best to cut large limbs, so that they will heal over without rotting? An answer in the *Cultivator* will oblige H. F. GIFFORD. *Falmouth, Mass.*

Decayed wood cannot be cured; but if the trees are not very old, the decayed parts may be cut away, and the cut surface covered with the well known shellac solution—or by a mixture of tar and brick-dust.

Cut large limbs, if necessary, in summer, towards the close of the growing season, and after a few weeks when the cut surface has become dry, apply the solution or mixture above named.

(The shellac solution is made by dissolving shellac in

alcohol, till as thick as thick paint. It may be kept, conveniently, corked tight, in a wide-mouthed bottle, with a brush set in the cork, and thus always ready for use.)

Transactions, &c., of Ag. Societies.

Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society, with an Abstract of the Proceedings of the County Ag. Societies. Vol. XVI—1856.

This is just issued, and forms an interesting volume of nearly 800 pp.—including the reports and addresses of the year 1856, the proceedings in inauguration of the Society's present apartments in the Geological Hall, and numerous other papers. The third of Dr. Fitch's Entomological Reports occupies 176 pages, and is accompanied by a number of valuable plates. Prof. S. W. JOHNSON contributes an article on Soils, their Physical properties, &c.; Prof. NASH one upon American Agriculture, and Mr. GOODRICH one on the Diseases of the Grape and Sugar Cane. The present volume was submitted by Secretary JOHNSON under date of March 26, 1857, and we much regret that it has been so long in getting into print.

Transactions of the American Institute of the City of New-York, for 1856.

About one half this of volume is devoted to the Proceedings of the New-York Farmer's Club, and the remainder to mechanical subjects. The Institute is represented as in a prosperous condition.

Fifth Annual Report of the Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture, together with the Reports of Committees appointed to visit the County Societies.

Mr. Secretary FLINT has shown great care and industry in the preparation of the three hundred and twenty or thirty pages which constitute his Fifth Report. A well prepared digest of the proceedings, reports, &c., at the First Fair, held last fall, occupies a considerable space, and furnishes a large number of engravings which manifest a gratifying improvement on most attempts at the illustration of similar works. The volume is a creditable one both to the State and to its author.

First An. Report of Prof. S. W. Johnson, Chemist to the Connecticut State Ag. Society, and Professor of Analytical and Ag. Chemistry in Yale College.

This valuable paper contains the results of analyses of 62 samples of 5 different Guanos, and numerous Superphosphates, Poudrettes, Peats, &c., &c. A number of introductory pages are devoted to general considerations on Manures, their action, comparative value, the uses of special manures, their commercial value, and the means of computing it, with much information on other points in connection. The whole bears the marks of the thorough research and prudent reasoning we should expect from the writer, and shows his services to be of great value to the farmers of his own and other States.

Ag. Address delivered before the Conn. State Ag. Society at Bridgeport. By Donald G. Mitchell, Esq.

A right good sermon (agriculturally speaking) is this for both reading and non-reading tillers of the soil. How to make Farming a paying, an instructive, a comfortable business—in what respects it now falls below this high standard—is the theme treated, both gracefully and practically, by the accomplished speaker. We are happy to welcome his active pen—which readers of the *Cultivator* ten or a dozen years ago will not fail to remember as then of frequent service in its column—once more at work in the cause of Agriculture, and we trust this may be but a beginning of its labors.

The Spotted Squash Bug—(*Coccinella borealis*.)

There is a large family of insects of the order of Beetles, (*Coleoptera*), called *Coccinellidæ*, which has a very wide geographical range, being familiar to the farmer as well as to the entomologist, in this country and in Europe. Their common names are Lady-bug, Lady-cow, Lady-bird. There are many different species in this family, varying in their size and color. Some are of a dark or black color, with yellow or red spots; others have a yellow or red ground with black spots. Some have only two spots while others have twenty or more. This family with few exceptions is insectivorous, that is, feeds upon insects; indeed until recently, entomologists have given the entire family of *Coccinellidæ* the credit of being our friends and aids in diminishing the number of destructive insects, such as Aphids, or Plant-lice. The cultivator may therefore be perplexed, by finding that Harris and other writers, urge us to spare the Lady-birds, while the evidences of the injury produced by a disreputable member of this worthy family are unmistakable.

The accompanying cuts, Figs. 1 and 2, give a vertical and side view of the *Coccinella borealis*, which to some of our readers will be entirely familiar, while others may never have seen it. In some localities in New-Jersey, New-York and Connecticut, it has been a



Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

Figs. 1 and 2—The *Coccinella borealis*, or Lady-bird. Fig 3—The same insect in the larva or worm state. very troublesome visitor, entirely destroying the foliage of the squash vine even after the plant has reached a large size, and is in full bearing.

In no work have I been able to find any mention of this insect, except in Dr. Emerson's excellent "American Farmer's Encyclopedia," and even there in the description accompanying the figure, it is said to be insectivorous, but under the head of "Squash-bug" the true habit of the insect is given, with the name of "*Coccinella borealis*."

As in several respects its habits are interesting and peculiar, I will give the results of a few observations made during the summer of 1856.

The form of the perfect insect is nearly that of a hemisphere. Like all beetles, it possesses horny wing cases, which when closed, cover a pair of folded membranous wings. Its legs are yellow, quite short, being scarcely seen when looking at it from above. The head is very small, as compared to the body, and is so cov-

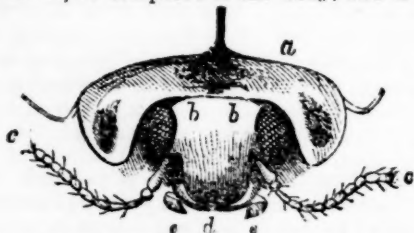


Fig. 4—A magnified view of the head of the *Coccinella*. covered by the thorax as to be almost invisible. Fig. 4

gives a greatly magnified view of the head and the thorax, the latter covering the former like a hood. *a* is the thorax, on which are several spots; *b b* are the

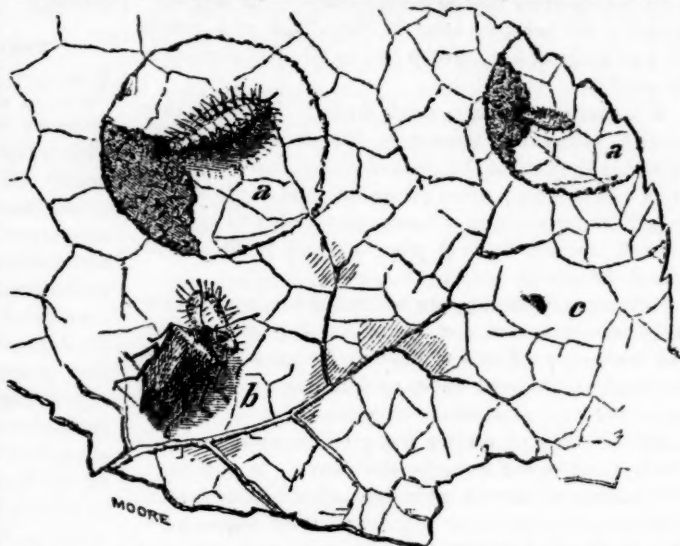


Fig. 5—*a* The larva feeding within the circle. *b* An insect which preys upon the larva. *c* Size of the larva when first hatched.

eyes, which are compound or formed of a number of smaller eyes arranged in rows; *c c* are the antennæ; *d* the mandibles or forceps with which it cuts its food; *e e* are moveable jointed organs of the mouth, which serve as fingers or feelers, and are called *Palpi*.

The color is a dull yellow of uniform shade, but having on the thorax and wing cases nineteen black spots, (counting as two each those which are divided by the suture of the wing) It is first seen early in June as a perfect insect, feeding in the day time upon the upper surface of the leaf. It has a singular habit which I have noticed in no other insect. In feeding its first act is to mark out with its forceps a circle or semi-circle, sometimes of great regularity, enclosing the portion of the leaf upon which it is about to feed. The leaf is then eaten within this mark, and no where else. The larva or worm observes the same habit of marking out its pasture ground, as seen in Fig. 5, *a*. The insect is not quick in its movements, and does not readily take wing, but when disturbed, draws its legs and antennæ under its body and falls to the ground. Shortly after its first appearance it is found in pairs, and soon after commences to deposit its eggs. These eggs are placed in irregular groups on the under side of the leaf. When first hatched, the young larva, Fig. 5, *c*, is very small, of a chrome yellow, and armed even at this early period, with thornlike spines. One of these spines magnified in Fig. 6, shows the formidable character of this natural defence. These larvæ eat voraciously and grow rapidly, casting their skins several times. A magnified view of the larva is given in Fig. 7. They have six true legs, and use the tail or posterior extremity in walking, as a seventh leg. After attaining the size represented in Fig. 3, they crawl to some sheltered spot on the under side of the leaf, or upon the stem, and fasten themselves securely for the change to a pupa or chrysalis, the pupa case being the thorny skin of the larva. Remaining in this dormant state something over a week, it then emerges as a perfect insect, and if not too late in the season, re-



Fig. 6—Magnified view of a Spine of the young larva.

commences the propagation of its species. It may be found upon the squash vine of all ages at once, from the first of July to the middle of October, showing that many successive broods are hatched irregularly through the summer. In Fig. 5, b, is represented an insect which in several instances I have found preying upon the larva of the Coccinella, by inserting its proboscis in the body of the latter and sucking out its contents. On being disturbed, it carried off the larva elevated on the end of its sucker. This insect destroyer must not be mistaken for another squash-bug of similar shape, but larger, which is exceedingly destructive to this plant.

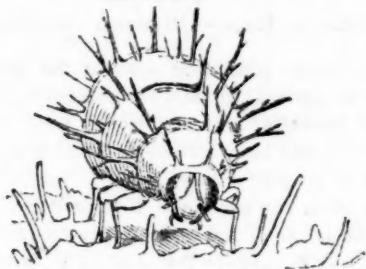


Fig. 7—Magnified view of the Larva.

The only remedy which I have found effective to prevent the injury from the Coccinella is hand picking. Lime, dusted upon the leaf while wet with rain or dew, is some assistance, but will not be in itself sufficient. A small basin or cup filled with strong brine to brush the insects into, can be used advantageously; and remember that one hour spent in this work when the insect first appears, and before its eggs are laid, will be of more service than many hours after that time. A. O. MOORE. *New-York.*

Man vs. Horse Power for Mowing.

MESSRS. EDITORS—In my opinion your correspondent DARIUS CLIZBE, (see Co. Gent., p. 173,) takes a wrong view of man mowers and horse mowers. In the first place, in this section of country, for several years past, no good mowers could be hired for less than \$1 50 per day and board, and I never saw five mowers together that would average over one acre each, daily, and seldom that where the acre would yield two tons of dry hay, and if cut as close and even as the machines, not near that. For years before we had mowing machines, I often let my mowing by the acre, and paid from \$1.25 to \$1 50, besides board. Now I could get any quantity I ever had, or ever will have, to cut, done for 62½ cents per acre by horses, and they will cut ten acres per day. The difference of board of ten men in place of one man and one pair of horses, is no small item. But we can cut our grass at much less expense with our own machines and horses, than to hire it done at 62½ cents per acre, as any smart boy, or lazy farmer, or old man, can drive the horses, and that is all he has got to do; and farmer's horses would be generally idle when he is toiling at cutting down his grass. No, no, Mr. C., you are altogether in the fog on men versus horses. JOHN JOHNSTON. *Near Geneva.*

Guyandotte Muffins.

Two eggs, three cups, of corn meal, three cups of flower; stir in sour milk enough to make a stiff batter, add three tea-spoonfuls of melted lard, a little salt and one tea-spoonful of soda dissolved in warm water. Pour your rings half full, and bake quick. PRACTICAL HOUSEKEEPING. *Kanawha Valley.*

Farming in Illinois.

A subscriber in Fulton county, Ill., writes us as follows:—Taking a dislike to mercantile business, I sold out, and have gone to farming. I had one hundred acres under the plow last year, and did the whole with one pair of horses, which were in good condition all the season. I raised 2,250 bushels of corn, (75 bushels to the acre,) and 850 bushels of small grain—18 acres spring wheat averaged 23 bushels per acre, besides about 60 bushels spoilt by getting wet. One field of three acres averaged 30 bushels per acre. I don't work much myself, and paid last year about \$200 for labor, and yet cleared from 80 acres in cultivation \$1,000. Farming here, even at present low prices, is a paying business, and by industry and economy a man can get ahead fast. It takes no manure and no plaster to make corn grow, and as to wheat and barley, the only trouble is the land is too rich. We need men to work out here. There are plenty of places, and good ones too, for hired help—wages ruling at \$150 for ten months, or \$175 per year."

Onions Running to Tops.

A Kansas correspondent some time since, mentioned the case of his onions growing all tops, although, he says, in rich ground. The probability is that the seed was sown late; if so, it most likely was the true cause. That, and the virgin soil of the prairie, undoubtedly was. It is useless to try to get a fine crop of ripe onions, if the seed is not got in early; it can scarcely be too early, providing the frost is sufficiently out of the ground. It is well also, if the ground is loose from recent spading or plowing, to make it closer either by rolling or treading with the feet. This is a very old custom of onion growers. E. S.

Prices and Sizes of Hay Caps.

The *Boston Cultivator* furnishes the following information on this subject:

We have called on Messrs. Chase & Fay, 14 City Wharf, Boston, and obtained some information in regard to hay caps. They make four sizes of the following dimensions and prices. No. 1, 54 by 48 inches, sheeting, 25 cents each. No. 2, 72 by 72 in., sheeting, 37c. No. 3, 53 by 48 in., drilling, 37c. No. 4, 72 by 72 in., drilling, 62c. The material used has passed through the process called Kyanizing, by which it is said to be proof against mildew. The caps are prepared with a loop hole at each corner, into which a metal thimble is fastened. Strings are tied to the caps through the holes, and pins to hold the caps to the hay are attached to the strings. The pins may be either of wood or iron. Those made of No. 8 wire, fifteen inches long, are furnished with the caps, if desired, at one cent each. Caps of the largest size here mentioned, will protect 100 lbs. of the coarsest clover or other hay, and the others will cover a proportionate quantity. It is easy to see from this how many would be required to the acre, the yield being stated. There is no question as to the utility of the article—especially for clover and in "catching weather" like that of last season. The testimony of all who have used them, so far as we know, is strongly in their favor.

Cabbage Salad.

Chop enough cabbage fine to fill a vegetable dish. Heat a coffee cup of strong vinegar, with a piece of butter in it the size of a small egg. Pepper and salt. When hot, beat an egg very light and stir in; then pour it all on to the chopped cabbage. M. H. K.

Planting Osage Hedges.

[We commend the following valuable practical remarks on planting hedges of the Osage Orange, to the attention of all our readers who intend to adopt this kind of fencing, and who wish to avoid all openings and gaps occasioned by the dying out of single plants]

In the Co. GENT. of Feb. 25th, I find an article on Osage Orange hedges, which fully agrees with the results of my own experience. To the excellent suggestions made by Prof. J. B. TURNER, I beg leave to add a few practical hints.

The two main difficulties are to obtain an even stand at the first planting, and to preserve the young hedge through the first winter.

It is very important to have all the plants start even at the first setting, since replanting is extremely difficult. The second year the plants of the first setting grow so strong and throw so much shade, that newly set young plants are often suffocated. There ought, therefore, no plants to be set out but such as are perfectly sound and vigorous. Now it is almost impossible to tell weak plants apart; I therefore prepare a little garden-bed early in the spring, dig it up deep, pulverize it finely, dig a little trench across at an angle of 45°, and lay into this trench a course of plants. Then I sift on some fine dirt and lay another course, arranging it so that my plants are covered two or three inches deeper than they stood in the nursery. If the weather is dry, I sprinkle occasionally. In two or three weeks the bed begins to change its color. As soon as the buds are one-fourth inch sprouted, I take my plants up and transplant them to the hedge-row, dipping them into a puddle of thick mud as fast as I take them up. Now if there is any plants among them, that either have not sprouted at all or show but feeble signs of life, then I throw them aside. In this way I have set out half a mile without missing one single plant. I have sometimes, under the pressure of spring work, been obliged to leave plants in the sprouting-bed until the sprouts were two inches long; and have set them out in such a condition during the hottest part of the day, without having a single sprout wilt. In setting out, I set two inches deeper than the plant stood in the nursery. The cut-worm frequently is very troublesome, not only biting off the stem of the young sprout, but eating out the whole bud. In this case, new shoots will appear from the buds below the ground. And if ever the tops should winter-kill, a new growth will be obtained with greater certainty.

This secures an even growth at the beginning. Now as to winter-killing of the young hedge, it is not the tops, but the roots, that are exposed to such danger. Our prairie soil is very apt to heave. Porous itself, it absorbs water readily, while the substratum of clay prevents its descent into the subsoil. I have seen apple trees, that had grown vigorously during a whole season, raised in this way, till at the settling back of the ground they were left lying flat on top. Young hedge plants, if not protected, will in like manner in the spring show the yellow root above ground. This root absolutely bears no freezing when unprotected by dirt. And to this cause can I trace every case of winter killing that has come under my observation. Now this danger is easily avoided. Take in the fall a strong team and a good plow. For the first furrow let your horses straddle the row; at the second, run your plow

in to the beam. Throw up three furrows on each side. If you cover up some plants entirely, it will be all the better. This operation drains the water off, so that the ground will heave but little, and protects the plants. In the spring the dirt is easily rolled back. Some talk of covering with litter, but this is much more expensive and not half as good.

I set my plants seven inches apart, but am inclined to think that ten inches would be better, since the plants would grow faster and stronger. Will Prof. Turner give us his experience on this point? W. LAER. Garden Grove, Iowa.

Colza or Rape—*Brassica campestris*.

This is a plant producing seed of the greatest importance in agriculture and manufactures, as will be explained hereafter. It requires a good loamy soil, preferably a clay loam, although it will do equally well on sandy or gravelly loams.

In the north and middle of Europe it is extensively raised, and is one of the best preparations for wheat. The best way to prepare the land for it, is by plowing it in the fall, and then again a short time before sowing, manuring the land with from 10 to 20 loads of manure per acre. The seed should be sown in July or August, either broadcast or in drills 3 feet apart; another good mode is to sow the seed thick on a rich seed bed, to plant out afterwards in drills on land where the grain stubble has been manured and plowed in deep; the plants having 3 or 4 leaves are taken up carefully and set out as cabbages are in the rows about one foot apart. This can be done as late as September or beginning of October, either by hand, or, what saves much time and labor, they can be put in furrows after the plow, taking care to put them upright in the furrow, and cover them by the return of the plow, leaving the leaves above the ground, and in such a manner that no earth falls in the heart of the plants; taking care to go over the piece to dress all plants that may be covered too deep, which is easily done by a man or boy walking along the furrows and pressing the plants with his foot or the hoe. The rows should be hoed either with the cultivator, as soon as weeds make their appearance, or with a small plow or the hoe, giving the plants a slight hilling once or twice, the last time as late as the weather will permit in November or December. They will remain and pass the winter uninjured by frost.

The next year they should again be cultivated or hoed, and another slight hilling will greatly strengthen the plants.

The quantity of seed to be used may be from two to four pounds, taking care to use seed enough.

The Rape is ready to be cut or pulled up when the upper branches and pods turn brown, which will be in June or July of the second summer, before the pods are all evenly ripe, for if all are perfectly ripe when gathered, the loss by shedding might be very serious.

Or it can be reaped the same as wheat, by the sickle or scythe, but no cradle; the handfulls should be laid singly and lightly upon the stubble, behind the reapers, and thus it should lie without stirring, until all is ready to thrash out, which will be in a short time, about four to six days generally; at that time the weather is warm and dry.

When it is ready, prepare a floor in the middle of the

field, on even ground, on which spread a coarse muslin or canvass cloth, twenty to forty feet square, the larger the better; spread the rows round and thrash round; a good thing is to have a boy to spread before the thrasher and turn over; or it can be thrashed by a thrashing machine, which will do the work quicker. If you intend, as many prefer, to thrash on the barn floor, then remove the plants carefully on a large sheet spread on a frame in the wagon, to prevent the loss of seed by the jolting or shaking of the wagon.

When all is thrashed out, the seed can be stored in a dry and airy granary, according to its dry state, two feet thick, until it is bagged out to be sold, or sent to be crushed in the mill. Colza, in good ground well worked, does not fail to make strong stems and large succulent leaves the first season, so that by the middle or latter end of November, or beginning or middle of December, it will bear pasturing by small stock, calves or sheep—but they must not be suffered to crop the stalks, as it would injure the rape for the next season.

This fodder will make one of the best pastures for sheep, and will make them fat and in good condition. No hogs should be turned among those plants, as they would, hog-like, destroy the plants more than they would consume the leaves.

The produce of an acre of Colza or rape, will be according to the condition of the land, management, care and nicety with which all is conducted, from twenty bushels upwards to fifty five or even sixty, which will command from two to three dollars and a half per bushel. The last I raised I sold at \$3.50 per bushel in Philadelphia. Upwards of 75 bushels have been raised to the English acre in Flanders.

The following method is a very good one to put in eight or ten acres, and will save much manure.

Take about one-quarter to one-half acre of well manured land, and sow on it thirty pounds of seed broadcast or in drills, six inches apart; let the plants grow until the middle of September; take eight or ten acres of stubble ground soon after harvest, plow in the stubble and let it lie a month or six weeks; then plow it again; if the land was manured for the previous crop it will be in a good and fit condition; after harrowing with the furrows, begin by plowing a furrow, and set the plants out of your bed, at the distance of a foot, against the turned side of the furrow; set the plow and run another furrow at the distance of three feet from the first, and in returning cover the first furrow planted, and so on until the field is set.

Should the land not have been manured, and you have but little to spare, lay what you have in heaps, and throw a good handful at the root of each plant, or a good handful of guano mixed with three or four times its bulk of earth or mold, or hen dung mixed with ashes; the produce will be large and the seed of good quality.

The above is the management of *winter Colza* or *Rape*; but there is another variety, the *spring* or *March Colza* or *Rape*; it is cultivated and handled in every respect like the former, except that it is sown in the spring, March or April, and harvested the latter end of August or September the same year. It does not, however, yield so large a produce as the former by ten to fifteen per cent. It requires the same amount of seed.

Colza or *Rape* is one of the most valuable plants for the oil the seed produces by expression, and thus holds

a distinguished place among the crops raised for profit. Rape oil is one of the most valuable oils produced and used in the arts and manufactures, for burning, eating, cloth fulling, for tanners, soap making and machinery; for this latter purpose it is superior to the fish oils, as it does not gum or harden. It makes the best oil for burning in the light houses, producing a brilliant steady light. The United States government is at the present time much interested in trying to introduce its general cultivation in the country for that purpose.

Fish oil is constantly rising in price, and independently of whales getting scarcer every year, the price of fish oils may in future get materially affected by political uncertain events and changes; consequently it would be desirable, and it raises the solicitude of government to try to establish the cultivation of *Colza* or *Rape*, and the manufacturing of its seeds into oil, permanently in this country.

We may then, and at not only a fair, but at a very liberal profit, establish among us the cultivation of this most valuable plant, for which the soil and climate of nearly all the States of this very extensive Republic are eminently favorable.

Besides the oil, the residue or cake left after expressing the seed, makes one of the most powerful manures; it is as immediate in its effects and superior to guano, as it lasts longer in the ground to benefit after crops for two or three more years. The same cake for feeding all kinds of cattle cannot be surpassed for its fattening qualities; its effects are astonishing; the quantities imported into England for this purpose and for manure, being annually very large. The produce of cake per acre may be set down at one-half to three-quarters of a ton or a ton, worth at present from \$35 to \$40 per ton.

Lastly, sheep are very fond of the husks and the ends of the branches; the straw is made into manure or burnt on the ground.

Any one desiring to engage in the cultivation of *Colza*, can procure the seed of Mr. H. A. Dreer, seedsman, 327 Chestnut st., near Fourth, Philadelphia.

Any other information wanted as to the produce in oil, crushing, putting up oil mills, &c., I will impart on application to me. The seed will produce about 3½ gallons of oil per bushel, besides the cake, which will be from one-half to three quarters, or a ton per acre. F. A. N. *New-Jersey*.

Gooseberry Culture.

I have seen inquiries in the GENTLEMAN in regard to mildew on gooseberries. I have raised them for six years without mildew—that is, as long as I have had any in bearing. I would recommend cutting away the old wood, so as to have young thrifty bushes, or else occasionally transplant. I have done both to some extent, but certainly keep the bushes thinned so as to give a free circulation of air and sunshine, and train them free of the ground by trimming or otherwise. I have yearly put a dressing of leached ashes or chip manure, or both, around my bushes, and think it is beneficial to put the ashes, as it prevents weeds growing around, and thus admits of the circulation of pure air more freely. I prefer those whose habit of growth is most upright. B. B. N. *Franklin Co., Vt.*

GOLD is universally worshipped, without a single temple, and by all classes, without a single hypocrite.

Cutting Potatoes for Planting.

We copy the following article from the April No. of the *Genesee Farmer*, as confirmatory of the practice recommended by our correspondent Mr. HOWATT.

After all that has been written on the subject, it is still a disputed point whether it is better to plant large or small potatoes, whole potatoes or sets.

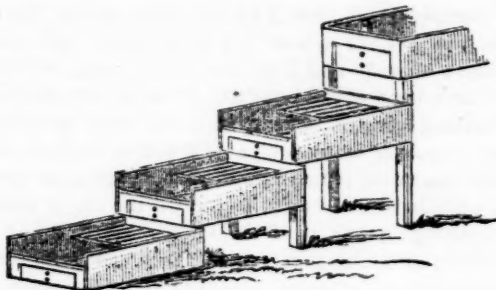
The fleshy matter of the potato unquestionably furnishes food for the young plant; and, on theoretical grounds, it might be supposed that the larger the potatoes—the more fleshy matter there is to each eye—the more vigorous would be the early growth of the plant. This is probably true so far as the growth of leaves and stems is concerned, and it may be of seed (balls) also; but it must be borne in mind, in applying general principles to the cultivation of the potato that the object is not to develop the natural growth of the plant, but to increase the formation of tubers—of the underground “*gouty branches*.” The present habit of the plant is the result somewhat of artificial treatment; and in order to retain this habit, we must resort to those practices which have been found from experience to induce the formation of tubers, rather than to those which are deduced from the general principles applicable to the natural growth of plants. Dr. LINDLEY—a high authority—says: “I have proved, by a series of numerous experiments, that the weight of potatoes per acre is greater, under equal circumstances, from sets than from whole tubers, by upwards of from seven cwt. to three tons per acre.” An excessive amount of alimentary matter in the sets, therefore, is injurious rather than beneficial.

It does not follow from this fact, however, that small potatoes are better for seed than large ones. Small potatoes are apt to throw up too many small, soft stems, which produce smaller tubers than where there is one, or at most two, stout woody stems. It seems, also, to be proved that a set from a good-sized potato is better than a set from a small one; and it is probably true, as the experiments of the Rev. JAMES FARQUHARSON indicate, that large potatoes planted whole will produce a greater crop of good-sized potatoes than small ones planted whole. Yet it does not follow from this that there is not too much fleshy matter in the large potato when planted whole, and that it would not be better, as Dr. Lindley states, to plant only sets from the large potato.

It is a curious fact, but one which seems to be well established, that the eyes from the extremity of the potato, produce crops which come to maturity from two to three weeks earlier than those from the root end. In some parts of England, farmers who raise early potatoes for market have availed themselves of this fact for many years. They cut the potatoes into sets, as shown in the annexed sketch. The sets nearest the extremity of the potato (a) produce the earliest crop, and are planted by themselves, in warm places, for this purpose. The sets at the root end (d) are planted for a late crop, and those in the middle of the potato (b, c) are planted for an intermediate crop. The root end is usually thrown aside for the pigs.

It has been supposed that the reason why the eyes from the point of the potato are more easily excited into growth, is owing to their being more perfectly matured; but this is impossible, as they are the youngest eyes. It seems to us more likely that the cause lies in the fact that the extremity of the potato is not so ripe as the root end—that, in other words, they are not so perfectly organized, and are consequently less able to resist the decomposing influences of light, air, and moisture. “That which thou sowest is not quickened unless it die.” The organized matter of a plant must be decomposed (or die) before it can reproduce itself. The youngest eyes, being less perfectly organized, would decay soonest and grow earlier and with greater vigor. It will be urged as an objection to this view, that the ripest buds of trees start earliest. But the cases are not parallel. They derive nourishment from the sap of the tree, and not from the decay of organic matter surrounding them. Still, whether our reasoning is correct or not, the fact that the buds at the extremity of the potato will produce the earliest crop, seems to be beyond dispute; and those who wish early potatoes may avail themselves of it, even though the cause may not be clearly understood.

The true generosity of the heart is more displayed by deeds of minor kindness, than by acts which may partake of ostentation.



Apple Seed Washer.

Since we published, a few weeks since, the account of Mattison's apple-seed washer, we have been furnished with another by J. T. of Ohio, which he thinks is a better one, and he states that it will clean as fast as the pomace can be drawn, with a full supply of water.

The figure nearly explains itself—the first fall is two feet, the second and third eighteen inches; the vat is two feet by three, and eight feet long. There are gates in the lower boxes to wash down the seed into a basket when completed.

The pomace is soaked and loosened in the upper box or vat, and then by drawing the gate, its fall on the slats at the upper end of each succeeding box, separates the seed without any additional labor, after dumping the cart in the upper vat.

This is a more complex contrivance than Mattison's, and therefore should be decidedly better to recommend it. Will J. T. inform us how much seed has been washed in an hour, with the amount of labor required.

Calomel a Remedy for Pear Blight.

Page 110, Co. Gent.—“Diseases of Fruit Trees.” A grafter in my employ says that down in Egypt, (Illinois,) where there is a plenty of *Marsh-metre*, (miasma,) they cure the fire blight the same as they do the fever and ague, and bilious patients, by dosing them with calomel—a double dose for a man to be given a good sized pear tree under the bark, by carefully raising it. He has never known it to fail when applied before more than half of the tree has been affected. v

Cure for String Halt.

In order to cure the string halt, split the skin on the inner side of the affected leg, four inches above the hoof, over the main middle vein of the leg, and underneath the vein you will find a small cord about the size of a rye straw. This must be taken up with an awl and cut in two, which will certainly cure. Let the operator be careful not to cut the vein or any of the sinews of the leg. Wash the wound with soap suds, twice every day till it is well. H. H. A. Rockville.

Recipe for Brown Bread.

MESSRS. EDS.—I will give you a receipt for making brown bread, which I think is very good. Take three quarts of Indian meal—one quart shorts—one tea cup full molasses—two yeast cakes—one tablespoon ginger—one do. salt—two tea spoonfuls soda. Raise the same as you do wheat bread. Bake four hours in a slow oven. EMELINE C. HALL. Easton, N. Y.

The Glenville Stock Association (Kentucky,) are to hold their third exhibition on the 10th of June.

Experiments with Sundry Fertilizers on Indian Corn.

We find in the Burlington Co. (N. J.) Advertiser a report of some experiments of the kind above named, made by T. B. COURSEY, and communicated to the Ag. Society of Kent Co., Delaware. As it has not yet been determined what fertilizer, or what class of fertilizers, had the greatest amount of influence in producing a *maximum* crop of Indian corn, nor which of the various commercial manures is the most economical or otherwise preferable for this crop, when home-made manures are not sufficient, we should gladly and gratefully accept of these experiments by Mr. COURSEY, as a contribution towards the determination of these questions. As likely to be of interest and use to several of our readers, we present a synopsis of Mr. C.'s report in as condensed a form as we have been able to put it. It is unfortunate that this report does not give the rate of produce per acre, nor the cost of producing each extra bushel of corn over the yield of the land which was not manured. The latter of these points may be ascertained, however, by a little calculation based on the *data* given in the report; and the former may be approximated by *supposing* the hills to have been one pace apart, which would give 4,000 hills per acre. As each row of corn reported, contained 125 hills, it would be exactly 1-32nd part of an acre, if planted at one pace apart, as it would require 32 such rows to make one acre of 4,000 hills.* As the hills in the experiments reported, were, however, placed at a distance of four feet apart, the above mode of calculation would, as we have said, give only an approximation to the actual rate of produce per acre.

The land selected for these experiments is described as high land, having a red clay bottom, with sufficient sand in it to make it easy to cultivate. It had been two years in clover, and was "well broken with a large plow," the ground marked out in rows four feet apart, and the different manures scattered in and near the points of crossing, and fully incorporated with the soil by running a small furrow harrow up and down the rows.

The following is the order of the experiments:—

- | | |
|---|--------|
| No. 1. Six rows, 125 hills each, without manure. | |
| No. 2. Nine rows, 125 hills each, with Columbian guano, 155 lbs at 2½ cents per lb. | \$3.49 |
| No. 3. Ten rows, 125 hills each, with Pacific Ocean guano, 160 lbs. at 2½ cts. per lb. | 4.00 |
| No. 4. Eight rows, 125 hills each, Jourdan's Super-phosphate, 150 lbs. at 2½ cts. per lb. | 3.37½ |
| No. 5. Ten rows, 125 hills each, Peruvian guano, 180 lbs. at 3 cts. | 5.40 |
| No. 6. Twelve rows, 125 hills, Pomeroy's Super-phosphate, 232 lbs. at 2½ cts. per lb. | 5.22 |
| No. 7. Twelve rows, 125 hills each, Allen & Needles' Super-phosphate, 239 lbs. at 2½ cts. ¾ lb. | 5.37 |
| No. 8. Six rows, 125 hills each, without manure. | |

As the results are given in a form which makes it

* As it may often be important and convenient to remember the above, it may be readily fixed in the memory by considering the following facts and calculations. An acre consists of 160 square rods, and a rod is of the length of five ordinary paces. Suppose then that you take an acre of 160 rods in length and 1 rod in width, there will be 800 paces in its length and 5 in its width, which multiplied together make 4,000 square paces, or 4,000 hills one pace apart in an acre. Again, suppose an acre is 32 rods in length, it will be 5 rods in width, and by multiplying each of these numbers by 5 and the quotients together, you again obtain the sum of 4,000. Or, take an acre in the form of 16 rods in length and 10 in width, the sides will be 80 and 50 paces respectively, which multiplied together give 4,000 as formerly. So also if an acre should be 20 rods in length and 8 rods in width, the sides will be 100 and 40 paces respectively, which multiplied together give 4,000, as in the former instances.

very difficult to put them in a table, we give them as presented in the original report, though abbreviated as much as they will admit of.

Nos. 1 and 8.—*Without manure*.—The six rows constituting No. 1, were taken from one side of the field, and the other six, No. 8, were taken from the other side. No 1 yielded 16½ baskets, and No. 8 gave 15½, or 32 baskets in all. As each basket averaged 36 lbs. of shelled corn, this gives to each unmanured row 96 lbs shelled corn, or 1,152 for the twelve rows.

No. 2. *Columbian Guano*.—Nine rows gave 31 baskets, equal to 1,116 lbs. Deducting 96 lbs. from each row, (what the produce would have been without manure,) it leaves a balance to credit guano of 252 lbs. This at 56 cents per bushel would be one cent per lb., or \$2 52, which is 97 cents less than cost of manure.

No. 3. *Pacific Ocean Guano*.—Ten rows made 38½ baskets, equal to 1,386 lbs. Deducting 96 lbs. for each row leaves 426 lbs, or \$4 26, which is 26 cents above cost of guano.

No. 4. *Jourdan's Super-phosphate*.—Eight rows made 22½ baskets, equal to 810 lbs. Deducting 96 lbs. for each row, leaves 42 lbs. as extra yield, giving a loss of \$2.95½.

No. 5. *Peruvian Guano*.—Ten rows made 35½ baskets, equal to 1,278 lbs. Deducting 960 lbs. leaves 318 lbs. to credit of guano, or \$3 18—which is \$2 22 less than cost.

No. 6. *Pomeroy's Super-phosphate*.—Twelve rows; 32 baskets—equal to 1,152 lbs., or just what the land would have produced without manure.

No. 7. *Allen & Needle's Super-phosphate*.—Twelve rows made 33 baskets, equal to 1,188 lbs. Deducting 96 lbs. for each row, leaves a gain of only one basket, or 96 lbs.—making a loss of \$5 01.

As the relater of these experiments states that he superintended the application of the manures and the gathering of the crops, book in hand, it is highly probable that they are correctly and reliably reported.

It seems an obvious conclusion from these experiments, that neither the superphosphates nor Peruvian guano can be employed with any profit when corn is at or under 56 cts. per bushel. Indeed Pacific Ocean guano is the only article which paid first cost, without taking into account the time and labor of distributing and getting it duly incorporated with the soil. Mr. C. says that he undertook these experiments, hoping to find in the superphosphates or something else, a substitute for Peruvian guano, the exorbitant price of which had made its purchase and use unprofitable. He is now much inclined to the opinion that superphosphates will not pay on any of the *cereals*, while a *genuine* superphosphate, he thinks, may be safely recommended for grass crops, turnips, perhaps root crops generally, and especially for Chinese sugar cane, as the stalk is the chief object for which it is cultivated, the seed being only a secondary consideration.

The experiments of Mr. COURSEY may be compared with those of Mr. BACKUS, which will be found tabulated and commented upon in *Co. Gent.* of Dec. 20th, 1855, and in *The Cultivator* of Feb. 1856.

SENDING GRAFTS AND STRAWBERRIES BY MAIL.—I received a small package of strawberry roots from Mr. DINGWALL of your city, last fall. They arrived here in good order, and grew well. Oil silk is the material for packing to go by mail. J. W. C. Wisconsin.

An Hour in the Suburbs of New-Haven.

A short distance from New-Haven, off to the left of the village that nestles under that precipitous geological fragment known as "West Rock," lie some two hundred acres of land—as regards fertility, a little more promising than much of the sandy and stony soil that tries the patience and ingenuity of the farmers of that vicinity, and, as regards situation, embracing something of the picturesque in itself, and commanding a considerable and beautiful prospect of the outer world. From the porch of a modest old house standing near the road that passes directly through the place, the city spires in the distance are not quite shut out by the woody spires of the scattered trees between, and the guardian cliffs of the region range themselves on one side of the picture, the abruptness of their bold faces slightly softened in the perspective—thus, it may be, rendered more natural and appropriate to the quiet stretch of cultivated lands and the lazily winding streams of the plain in front.

A passer-by on the last day of March, upon the road alluded to, however mild the air and bright the sky, will be very likely to regret that it is not the first of June—when the foliage on the trees, and the greenness of the sod, and the flowers in the border, and the climbers on the wall, and the water-jet in its little basin at the right, and the thatch above the well, and the brown or mossy bark on the rustic fence and gate, and the old boulders on the hill-side, and the growing crops in the fields, will be so many blending, contrasting or beautifying elements, as the case may be—in the scene which a little imagination will perhaps enable him to fancy already a reality. As it is, however, he must be content with the promise which the beginning of spring affords, of what the end of it may bring; and, if he have a sufficiently cultivated agricultural taste, the very manurial supplies that are furnished so generously, to enrich and protect the flower-beds and shrub-roots, shall be to him an additional prognostic of the beauty that is to come.

It is possible, however, that Farming does not consist merely in admiring a fine landscape on Nature's own canvass, or in the tasteful disposition of a country homestead and its surroundings! It may be well therefore to inquire further before a notice of such matters is admitted on an Agricultural page, inasmuch as it is very difficult in the eyes of many a tiller of the soil, to conceive of a combination of "fancy farming," (as anything beyond a square door-yard with prim white palings in front, is apt to be termed)—with practical, out-door, every-day success. So let us enter the gate and see for ourselves.

— A week or two since we briefly referred to an Agricultural address delivered by DONALD G. MITCHELL, Esq., at Bridgeport last fall, and we are sure that all who heard or have read it, will agree with us in commending the advice it contains, as eminently sensible and practical. Toward its conclusion, the author suggests the importance of making the farmer's home a place to be loved, and to be beautified by the simple means within the reach of all. In the preceding paragraphs we have seen Mr. MITCHELL's rendering of his own suggestions. The body of the address, however, was devoted to "a plain talk about our business of farming" in Connecticut, and we also find that Mr. M.'s efforts are, and have been for the three years he has

occupied his present estate, mainly devoted to its permanent improvement in fertility and consequent pecuniary returns. We shall find him draining where the ground is too wet, and gathering the stones where they are too thick—above all, when we go with him to the barns, we shall find complete and convenient contrivances for the saving of all manurial substances, and a large stock of them on hand for immediate application.

Mr. MITCHELL's main business is the production of milk for New-Haven. During the past year his sales of this article alone were over sixteen hundred dollars, or, as he milks from 13 to 15 cows, a return of slightly over \$100 to each. It is scarcely necessary to add that they are well cared for by an experienced herdsman,—that their feed is of the best, and regularly administered, and that the stables are warm and neat. The only ones of them that show any signs of "blood" are grades of partly Alderney and Short-Horn extraction—the latter of the two, we were told, somewhat the largest milker of all, but, it was added, requiring enough extra care and food to make up the difference. There is much in Mr. M.'s management that might be profitably repeated, had we had the time to learn its details. He raises roots in considerable quantities for winter use, and has determined that his best mode of summer keeping is to house the cattle more or less entirely throughout, instead of pasturing them. We do not doubt the accuracy of the conclusion, and wonder that the system of soiling practiced successfully so often, has not already become more general in the older portions of the country. There is no more important auxiliary in bringing up the fertility of the land.

This rambling notice should not end without an allusion to a very neat building of cobble stones, cornered with brick, erected by Mr. M. to serve as a dwelling for his men, and including a milk cellar admirably arranged for keeping the night's milking cool and sweet for morning use, even in the hottest weather. By the addition of a porch, by brackets under a projecting roof, and by carrying out the gable ends of the walls, which are of wood, a few inches beyond the stone wall beneath, he has given it a most appropriate and quite a striking air, to which the chimney stacks add very much, constructed in ornamental forms of brick and stone tastily alternated. All the wood used in the exterior construction was unplanned, and painted of a drab color, and the whole serves well as an instance of the pleasing effect a very little additional expense, rightly applied, may be made to yield. A spring upon the hill-side above the homestead, supplies both it and the farmery with all the water wanted. As illustrating the earliness of the season, we may add that potato planting was going on, and some had been put into the ground the previous week.

For Making Ink.

Soft maple bark, and willow bark, equal parts—a handful of each boiled in about four quarts of water, reduced to one quart. Take out the bark and add a lump of copperas about the size of a man's thumb to the first joint. If on writing with it, the ink appears very black, with a gloss on it, add a little water. I write this with ink made as above—[which appears well. EDS.] CHAS. BULL. *Canada West.*

The next Fair of the Illinois State Agricultural Society is to be held at Centralia

Renovating Old Orchards.

A large apple orchard, of about thirty years growth, has recently fallen under my management. During the first twenty years of its growth much attention was bestowed upon it, by scraping off the rough bark, washing, pruning thoroughly, and manuring the ground. During the past ten years, however, it has been considerably neglected, the scrapings, washings, and manurings having been omitted, while the prunings have been only lightly performed, annually. The consequence is, that the soil will bring but little grass, and the trees, though nearly all of them have a thrifty appearance, bear irregularly, some of them still bringing choice fruit to a plentiful extent, while many bear plentifully cracked and knotty fruit, and the balance rarely bear.

I am anxious to do a large amount of grafting this spring in this orchard, and to bring it into excellent condition in the least possible time, but am rather uncertain as to the proper course to pursue to most quickly and effectually renovate it. Please advise me. ORIS E. WOOD. *Etna, Tompkins Co., N. Y.*

Trees which have been "lightly" and properly pruned, and the soil kept fertile or previously manured, so that they have "a thrifty appearance," we should regard as in good condition. If the trees are not sufficiently vigorous however, moderate manuring and cultivation to keep the soil constantly clean and mellow, will tend to improve them more than any scraping, washing, or pruning, although these are good in their place. We should not desire the soil to bring any grass, in an orchard to be renovated, but would keep it clear,



Fig. 1.

continued for two or three years, working downwards, till the whole is replaced. This course prevents the evil of lopping off too much at a time, at the same time



Fig. 2.

that the grafts have nothing above to shade them. The re-grafted tree, when completed, will then have the appearance of Fig. 1.

In relation to pruning, nothing is more erroneous and hurtful than the common practice. Large trees are commonly trimmed up, as shown in Fig. 2, leaving long naked branches over the whole tree, with thick tufts of branches and leaves at the extreme ends. The proper course is to *thin out* the exterior, allowing the sun to



Fig. 3.

enter the body of the tree, as in Fig. 3, and keeping the head within reasonable reach. We have just seen a fine orchard lately trimmed very heavily, and most of the trees now appear much worse than Fig. 2, the bearing portions being thrown up a considerable distance towards the clouds. The owner did not say that he intended to gather the

fruit by means of balloons, but that was the inference. Before trimming, the trees appeared like Fig. 3, all the central portions of which were carefully cut out, except the larger limbs, and these were completely cleared of all smaller shoots. The parts that should have remained were cut away, and the parts which should have been thinned or removed, alone remained.

We much prefer a light annual pruning to any other; removing, while small, any shoots likely to form too thick a head, or to interfere with the successful growth of good, evenly distributed branches. Such a course obviates the necessity of making large wounds or checking the tree by lopping heavy limbs.

A Substitute for Horse-radish.

Sam Slick, the clock-maker, in his book, "Nature and Human Nature," says: "Take a turnip, scrape or grate it the same as the radish; mix it with fresh mustard and a little pepper and vinegar, and you can't tell it from tother." We have tried it, and Sam is right. The turnip we use is the Sweet German; perhaps the Yellow Swede is just as good. Try it, Messrs. Editors, and give us your opinion through the columns of the Co. Gent. KEZIAH. [As we have the genuine article in abundance, we leave it for some of our readers to test, and report upon Sam Slick's invention.]

CUTTING HAY EARLY.—I am much pleased with the account of the experiment of "J. H. H." of Seneca Co., showing the superiority of late cut timothy hay. Is it not probable that all culmiferous plants are governed by similar laws, so far as the development of nutriment is concerned? Take, for example, the Chinese Sugar Cane. The Country Gentleman contained some months ago a very clear, full, and accurate account of a series of experiments, showing that the saccharine matter was doubled when the seed was nearly ripe, as compared with stalks cut when first headed out. Is it probable that timothy and other grasses are governed by an opposite law? Such a supposition would be contrary to all facts in other cases. No plant when green, succulent, and watery, has as much substance as afterwards. The thing may of course be carried to an extreme, when the plant is dried up and woody. v. w.

Stanchions for Tying Cattle in Stables.

At page 156, present vol. of the Co. Gent., J. COPE, of Westchester, Pa., wishes to learn the "exact dimensions and descriptions of slip stanchions." For his benefit we will attempt a description of a good and cheaply constructed set we have recently seen.

The sills of the stanchions are of oak joist, six by two inches; the top timbers are of hemlock, of the same dimensions; the stanchions of ash, one and a half by four inches; one of each set of stanchions is pinned between the sills and the corresponding top pieces. From the bottom of the sills to the top of the stanchions is five and a half feet. The slip stanchions are of the same size and material as the first named, but only pinned at the bottom, which allows of their sliding back at the top about sixteen inches, to admit the animal's head; it is then pushed to an upright position and fastened at the top by a drop-button or clapper, which is much more secure than when fastened by pins.

For oxen and large cows, there is allowed a space for each of three and a half feet; for younger cattle about three feet to each. We have frequently seen the sill and top piece for stanchions made of solid timber, and mortises made for the stanchions. But there is much labor required in morticing, especially the top timber, so as to allow of the sliding back and forward of the slip stanchions. The kind we have attempted to describe, can be readily and cheaply made by almost any farmer.

Chains, wooden bows, and leather straps, are used by different farmers for tying up their cattle in the hovels. It is thought by some that such fastenings are easier and more comfortable for the animals than slip stanchions. Perhaps it may be so. Others object to the use of chains, bows, &c., as they give too much leeway to the cattle while in the hovel, as they are very apt to lie back in their dung, and the milk of cows thus tied up is too apt to "taste of the barn"—a flavor not usually relished by the lovers of good milk.

In our own experience, we have given bows, chains, leather straps, and slip stanchions, a fair trial. Apparently our cattle are as comfortable in the slip stanchions as when tied in any other way, never getting loose and goring each other, as was too frequently the case when bows or chains were used. In a rightly constructed hovel, cows cannot (when in stanchions) lie back in the filth of the hovel. Our cows have not laid out of the barn a single night for over two years, and all the while they have been as clean—bags, teats and flanks, as if they had laid in the pasture. In warm weather, the hovels are well ventilated by leaving the doors and windows open. They stand upon a raised platform, which is well littered with some dry material, such as dry muck, sawdust, leaves, or straw, &c.

As already said, the cattle stand on a raised platform, with a water-tight gutter in the rear, which is about 14 inches wide and 4 inches deep. The manure and urine falls into the gutter, the ends of which are closed so as to retain the urine, which is daily mixed with the litter, and all placed under cover. A gutter would be unnecessary where there was a manure cellar under the hovels; but the raised platform is necessary in all cases, if it is wished to keep the stock clean. The length of the platform in one of our hovels is just five feet in length from the bottom sill to the gutter. This is long enough for 7 feet oxen. In

another hovel for cows, the length of the platform is 4½ feet. This is quite long enough for large sized cows. From the edge of the platform to the bottom of the gutter is six inches. In this hovel our cows could scarcely be cleaner if they always stood upon their feet. They are always milked in the hovel, consequently there is no racing about the yard, hooking each other, and *upsetting* the milk-maid, as was occasionally the case when our cows were milked in the yard. [We have a reply to Mr. COPE's inquiry, from W. M. WHITE, Esq., of Allegany County, with a description of his barn, for which he will accept our thanks. It will be inserted soon.]

Use of Poultry Manure.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I send you my way of preparing and using hen manure on corn.

I have been in the habit for several years of getting together all the clear manure from the hen roost that I could, and a few days before planting (say three to six,) mix an equal quantity of wood ashes and about half as much plaster thoroughly together, wetting it enough to moisten the whole. When my ground is ready and marked both ways, drop a small handful to each hill, or one large handful for two, planting the corn as soon as may be, after dividing the compost with a slight motion of the hoe, before dropping the corn, and covering up with good mellow dirt.

Wetting the compost helps much to pulverize the hen manure, and insures the corn coming up immediately, which it would not be likely to do until after a rain if planted in its dry state.

I have never tested by actual experiment the increase of crop, but am well satisfied that I get enough more corn to keep my hens during the winter and spring, (giving them all they will eat,) besides lots of pumpkins in the bargain.

Perhaps something else would do better in the room of ashes. I think I shall try some with muck this year, and note the difference, if any, in the yield. A SMALL FARMER. Ballston.

Notes from the Census of New-York.

MARKET GARDENING.—In 1854, 12,591 acres in the different counties of this State, were occupied as market gardens, the value of the products amounting to \$1,138,682—being an average of \$90.43 per acre. Queens county devoted to the this object, 3,187 acres, producing \$337,503, or an average of nearly \$106 per acre—the next highest is Kings, 1,414½ acres, producing \$273,552, or about \$193.50 per acre—next comes Albany, with 1,113 acres, with a product of \$97,461, or an average of a little over \$85.50 per acre—while the 187 acres in New-York produced an average of a little over \$420 per acre.

HAY.—The hay crop averaged something less than one ton to the acre, the 3,384,440 acres producing but 3,256,949 tons.

TOBACCO.—786½ acres—produce, 946,502½ lbs.

SUGAR AND HONEY.—The product of maple sugar was 4,935,816 lbs., and of maple molasses, 85,092 gallons. The honey saved was 2,557,876 lbs.

POULTRY.—The value of poultry sold was \$1,076,598, and of eggs, \$1,360,673.

WOOL.—The number of fleeces shorn was 2,630,203, the weight of which was 9,231,960 lbs.

Harrowing Wheat in the Spring, &c.

(In answer to "An Inexperienced Farmer," p. 203.)

MESSRS. EDITORS—The treatment of fall sown wheat at the present time, should be well attended to, as much of the success of that crop depends upon it. I harrow with a double Scotch harrow, lengthwise of the drills, and then roll it. I again harrow crosswise of drill, and again roll it. Rye I treat in the same way. (I have just finished my crops of both as above.) This treatment assists the tillering of the plants. When the plants are too thick, it should be repeated three or four times, and where they are thin, by the loosening of the soil, it makes stronger plants. Why is it that those two crops do not require the soil stirred as well as any other? After laying all the fall and winter, the ground becomes a perfect crust, and it is admitted by all that to succeed in raising a good crop you must keep the ground constantly stirred. No crop will succeed where the ground is allowed to become crusty and hard on top, neither will wheat or rye. Whether it will pay to purchase a harrow and roller for the express purpose of cultivating wheat, must depend upon the number of acres that there is to work—but I am prepared to say that no well managed farm, from twenty-five acres upwards, should be without a roller, (wooden or iron,) and at least one heavy and one light harrow. They cost a little at first, but they will soon pay for themselves, and they can always be used to advantage when on hand; a roller, for instance, applied on a field of young clover that has been pretty well froze out, will settle the earth to the roots. This saving of crop would pay for the roller.

An "Inexperienced Farmer" may have got his ground into too mellow a condition before seeding, which will account for his slender growth. Wheat land should get but one plowing and one harrowing before seeding, except where the land is a very heavy strong clay; in this case it may require cross plowing, harrowing and rolling. If lumpy, the winter frosts and thawing will reduce them, and by harrowing and rolling in the spring you make a level surface, so that you can cut with a reaping machine, which, by the bye, you will find cheaper than the cradle or scythe, and decidedly better.

Lime is an essential manure for wheat, and should be applied before sowing, as follows: when plowed, spread your lime from the carts, and harrow in lightly, just covering it as thin as you would grassseeds. The lime should be kept well on the surface—it will itself work down to the subsoil. By plowing light the following year, you again bring it to the surface, and the following, plow to the subsoil, thus bringing the lime again to the surface.

Sowing plaster on wheat I consider a bad practice, except where the land is in very fine condition. It will draw sorrel out of the ground, if it is the least subject to sorrel, and it should be a wet season. Land that is sorrelly should be well dosed with lime.

As to the application of wood ashes, it is good. It should be applied after first harrowing and rolling, and then harrowed and rolled in. Unless this is done, it is useless; the ground being hard, it cannot get to the roots. I have applied in this way guano and muck, (well dried to powder,) which was a decided benefit, and paid well.

As to ashes or plaster applied as above, producing a

large growth of straw, it is incorrect. Those that have found their crop all straw and no grain, must attribute it to some other cause. The following is more likely the cause: The generality of farmers think that they cannot get too much stable manure on the land they intend sowing with wheat; in fact all their manure goes to the field intended for wheat. This overdosing of manure will run any grain to straw. Even this dose of manure is applied to sward, and it may do for Indian corn, but not for wheat. Fresh manure in no case should be applied to wheat. Land that has been manured the previous year is suitable for wheat, or sward or clover plowed in in July and August, and getting a sufficiency of lime. This is the best preparation for wheat. When a light harrow is not at hand, use the seed drill. You can adjust the drills to penetrate between the rows an inch deep, which will answer all purposes. *GERALD HOWATT. Newton, N. J.*

Good Sheep Feeding.

MR. JURIAN WINNE of Bethlehem in this county, to whose experience in Sheep Feeding we have more than once alluded during the past few years, has recently sold 220 head, fattened by him since the middle of last December. They were purchased for the purpose in Canada, mostly Leicester grades in breed, and were sold to the butcher, at an average on the whole lot, for a little over \$12 per head. The cost of feeding was carefully estimated by Mr. W., who thinks it cannot have exceeded \$3.50 each as an outside calculation. The feeding included corn and oats, with hay, in the morning; straw and carrots at noon, and corn, oil-meal and hay at night. The estimated live weight of the 220 head was 165 pounds. Mr. W.'s yearling stock ram weighs 230 pounds, and we give below the weights of several head out of the lot sold, taken by the scales at different periods in the course of feeding, as they may be interesting to some one with such figures of his own to compare with them. No. 1 in the following list was a yearling ram of Mr. W.'s own raising, and shows that his flock promises well. The sheep were weighed as follows:

	Jan. 8.	Jan. 23.	Feb. 13.	Feb. 27.	Mar. 20.
1,....	184	197	195	206	217
2,....	218	226	229	240	246
3,....	216	219	218	226	231
4,....	196	212	224	229	230
5,....	208	210	219	231	236
6,....	189	200	201	210	222
7,....	201	205	212	222	222

Experiments to be Tried in May.

MESSRS. EDITORS—Will the farmers try the following experiments, and report the result? Select a piece of sod which lies waste, and place potato sets on the grass, covering them up with six or eight inches of straw, being careful to wet the straw. All that is to be done in the fall, is to rake off the straw, and the potatoes are uncovered. I am aware that this mulching potatoes is not new, but were it proved by a number of experiments tried the same year, it would establish beyond a doubt whether potatoes can thus be grown sound; and, what is of no little importance, at a great reduction of labor and means. I intend trying it, and will report the result next fall. *N. St. M.—, Canada East.*

HON. L. CHANDLER BALL of Hoosick, has been appointed President of the Rensselaer Co. Ag. Society, in place of J. D. WILLARD, resigned.



"Mazurka 3d"—the Property of R. A. Alexander, Esq.

Among the stock at Woodburn Farm, (Woodford Co., Ky.,) no one family has perhaps attracted more general admiration than the *Mazurkas*, and the heifer represented above is one not often surpassed, and does great credit to her enterprising and careful breeder. We regret that we have not her full pedigree at hand, but will endeavor to give it on a future occasion, with some further illustrations from the same extensive herd, and in the meantime we desire to call attention to Mr ALEXANDER's advertisement in another column, from which it will be seen that his Fourth Annual Sale is to be held as usual on the 2d of the coming June.

Early Cutting of Hay.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I have observed in several agricultural papers, articles enjoining farmers to cut their hay as early as at the time that it comes out in blossom, (or even earlier,) because, it is said, "if properly cured, the hay retains its beautiful green color, and the nutritive juices of the plant to a much greater degree than if suffered to stand until the seeds are fully formed."

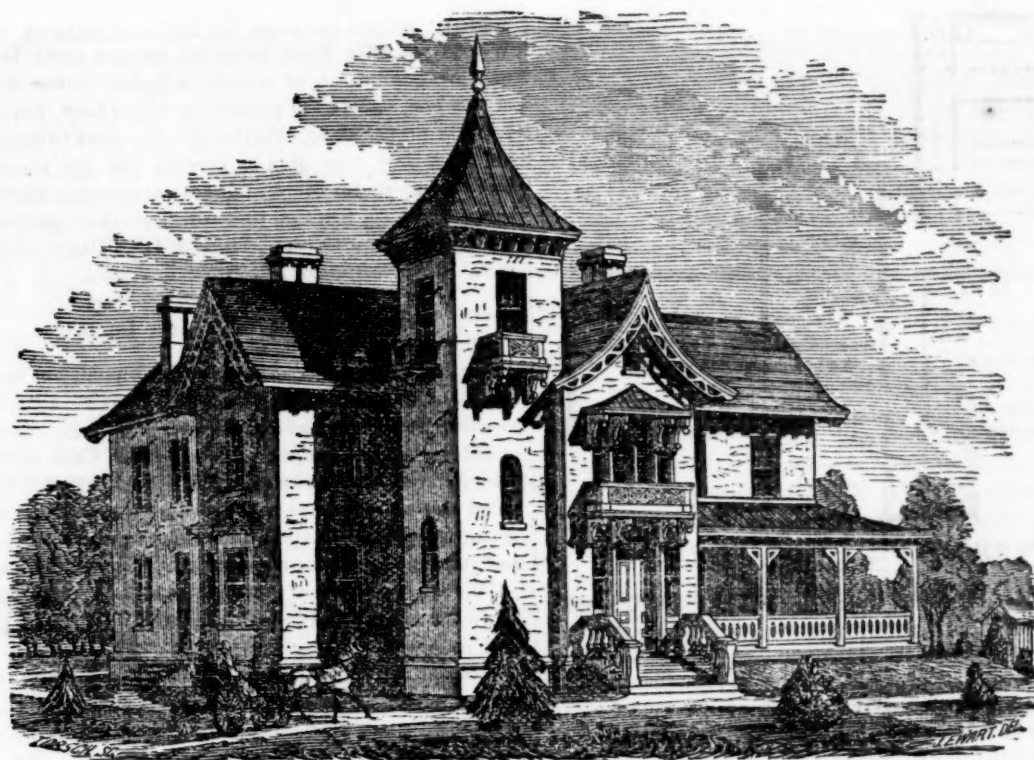
Perhaps this may be true in regard to clover, but I am satisfied that it is not in regard to timothy or the other "grasses." At all events, my experience is that green timothy hay is not as palatable to cattle, nor to stock of any kind, as that which is cut after the seeds are fully formed, and indeed so far ripened as to "shell" a little, when the hay is "housed."

Some years ago I cut some very good timothy grass before harvest, and before the blossoms had entirely fallen off. It was cured in the very best manner, and placed in a mow to which I could at any time have access. After harvest, and when the seed had become so ripe as to shell out considerably, I cut the same kind of grass in the same field, and placed it a separate mow. At a favorable time (in the following winter,) for making a fair experiment, I carried out to my cattle, hay from the mow in which I had stored that which had been cut while green, (before harvest,) and fed to each a separate parcel. After they had fairly commenced feeding upon it, I carried to each a parcel of that which had been cut after harvest, and from which the seed shelled when it was handled. In every instance the cattle immediately quit the "beautiful green hay," and ate up, clean, that which was cut after har-

vest, before again touching the former. Indeed, in many instances, they threw from their mouths the green hay, the sooner to get at the other. I repeatedly tried the same experiment, and the result was the same in every instance. The reason of the preference shown by the cattle for the hay cut after harvest, I suppose to be this: it was much more easily masticated, and sweeter in flavor than the other; that it retained, in the stems, leaves and seeds, all the nutritive matter which it possessed when green, and probably with some additions, derived from the earth and atmosphere, over and above that of the green hay.

The green, early cut hay, although it retained its green and beautiful appearance, was tough and difficult to masticate; and very probably the crude and unelaborated sap acquired an acid and bitterish taste which was disagreeable to the palate, and deleterious to the health of the cattle. Be this as it may, the experiments fully satisfied me that the cattle were most fond of the later cut hay; that they would eat more of it, and keep in better condition upon it than upon the earlier cut green hay. I have not so perfectly experimented in regard to horses and sheep. But I have observed that they always made the same choice with the cattle, when opportunity offered; no doubt for the same reasons. J. H. H. Seneca Co.

NEXT MEETING OF THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—We are authorized by the President, Hon. MARSHALL P. WILDER, to announce that the Seventh Session of the American Pomological Society will be held in the city of New-York, to commence on the 14th day of September next. Circulars will be issued in due time

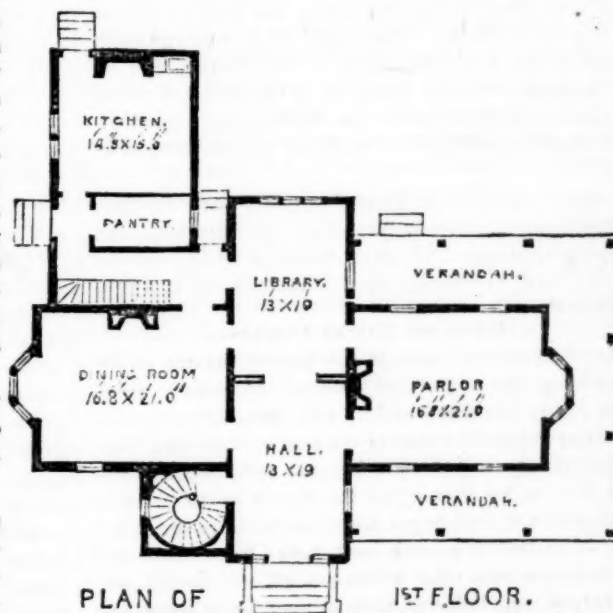


Rose Hill—the Residence of W. Wilson Byrne, Esq.

We are pleased to have the opportunity of presenting our readers the accompanying engraving and plans, and of promising them further illustrations from the same source. The following description from the accomplished architects, will explain itself, while we have reason to know that the gentleman for whom the design was made has been highly pleased with the result.*

Messrs. Editors—The accompanying design for a villa residence was prepared for W. Wilson Byrne, Esq., a few years ago, and carried out by him at "Rose Hill," his beautiful place on the Choptank river, near Cambridge, Md. The position selected for the house is on a slight eminence, a few hundred yards from the river bank, commanding a good view up and down the river. The extent of the water prospect from the upper story of the tower is very great. The gentle slope of the grounds as they fall off from the house—a graceful curve of the noble old river in full view, and the expanding sheet of water it forms as it flows on to the Chesapeake bay, a few miles distant—the large masses of woodland, and the easy undulations of the surrounding country, give to this site more of the beautiful than the picturesque.

The view here given is of the river front. The approach to the house is from the opposite direction. The accompanying plans illustrate so clearly the general arrangement, and the accommodation afforded, as to require but very little description or explanation. The parlor, library and dining-room,



PLAN OF 1ST FLOOR.

are entered from the hall. The library communicates with the parlor and dining-room. The principal staircase is in the tower, entered from the hall. The kitchen, pantry, and private staircase are connected with the dining-room and library by a passage. The kitchen is separated from the other rooms by the pantry and passage, thus excluding the fumes and heat of the kitchen from the other parts of the house.

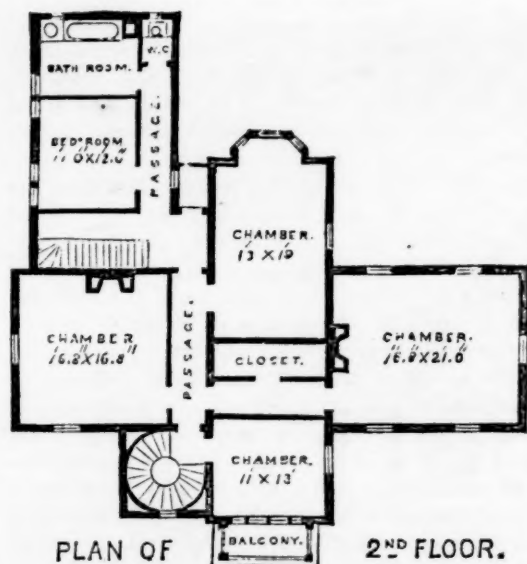
The plan of the second story contains five chambers, a bath-room, water-closet, and large linen closet. The

* Since this was written we have received the following note:

ROSE HILL, March 8, 1858.

Messrs. THOS. & JNO. DIXON—Gentlemen: It affords me pleasure to say to you that in the construction of my house you have done yourselves credit, and me justice. It is imposing, comfortable, and convenient, in winter and in summer. With great respect, I am most respectfully yours, &c.

W. WILSON BYRNE.

PLAN OF 2ND FLOOR.

attic has three bed-rooms, a room to store carpet, and a tank loft.

As will be seen by the accompanying view, a flight of steps with heavy balustrade, give prominence to the entrance. The broad verandah is an essential feature in an American country residence, particularly in the middle or southern states. The eaves have a broad projection, to shed the rain and snow off from the house. The window from the chamber over the hall, opens to the balcony over the entrance door, from which a good view of the river is obtained; this balcony is sheltered by the projecting hood over the window. The oriel window of the chamber over the library, and the balcony over the porch in the recess, are happy features in the composition. The high pitch and graceful curves of the roof add beauty to the design, and by the arrangement and grouping of the different parts, we think a pleasing outline is obtained and a good effect produced, without a sacrifice of convenience or plan.

Persons about to build will find it greatly to their advantage to procure proper plans, specifications, and working drawings. We send drawings by express and also by mail, to different parts of the country at a very small cost.

Hints on Rural Homes.

As every man's house is the proper theatre of his hospitality, the seat of self fruition, the home of those most dearly cherished by him and the place where its possessor enjoys the most of his true comfort and happiness, it may well deserve his most earnest consideration how he can best apply the means he proposes to appropriate to building a house, so as to make it not only a shelter from cold and heat—from storm and sunshine—a habitation where himself and family may be lodged and fed, but, that it may be so arranged, constructed and adorned, as to make it as comfortable, convenient, expressive and beautiful as the circumstances of the case will admit.

To aid in cultivating a taste for rural architecture, we propose to prepare and publish, from time to time, as our professional engagements will permit, illustrations of some of the designs we have prepared during the last few years, for country residences that have been built under our directions. These designs have been prepared to meet the varied requirements of the

different persons for whom the houses were to be built. We do not offer them as model designs, suitable for any location or site, or exactly adapted to the wants of any one, except the person for whom they were originally prepared, and for the site they were to occupy; but that they may give to persons who are about to build, some useful hints, and serve as stepping stones in their search for a design that will meet their particular wants and requirements. THOS. & J. M. DIXON, Architects. 117 Baltimore St., Baltimore, Md.

Destruction of Peach Buds.

We have had occasion frequently to point out to our readers the influence of the warm days of winter in swelling the fruit buds of the peach, and their consequent increased danger of destruction when intense cold follows. An eminent eastern horticulturist ridiculed this position a year or two since in his magazine, maintaining that the trees must enjoy a certain period of rest; and that, until the regular period for growth returned, the slight degree of warmth sometimes experienced in winter, could have no influence whatever. The present mild winter has sufficiently shown his mistake. A month ago, or about mid-winter, we found many fruit buds a fourth of an inch long, and of corresponding diameter—or cubically measured, *eight times* their size at the termination of last summer's growth. The accompanying figures, (which represent the branches and buds as magnified to twice their diameter,) show their relative sizes at the two periods; Fig. 1, being the size at the present time, or after the mild weather of winter; and Fig. 2, their size in autumn.

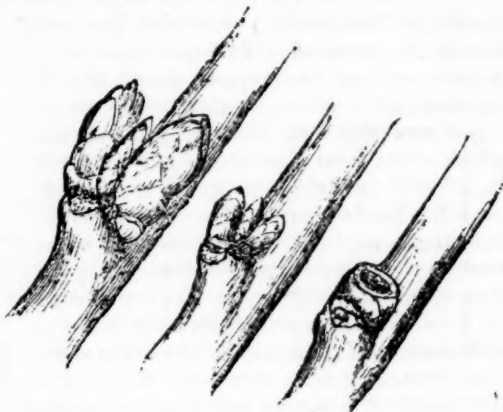


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

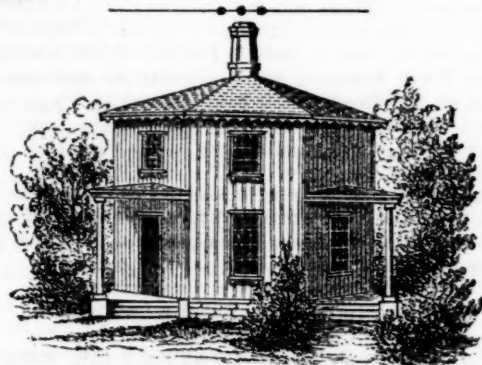
Fig. 1, magnified view (twice the diameter,) of peach buds, as swelled by the warm winter—(two fruit buds, with leaf bud between.) Fig. 2, the same last autumn, (before swelling.) Fig. 3, swollen fruit bud cut through, showing the dark and dead interior.

After being thus swollen and rendered more succulent, they become more tender and liable to destruction—of which the two past winters furnish decided proof. In 1856, the summer and autumn were dry, and the buds matured well—the following winter was *uniformly* cold, and the buds did not swell. At Union Springs, N. Y., the thermometer sunk to 22° below zero, yet many trees were loaded last summer, the buds being uninjured. In portions of Wayne and Monroe counties, where the weather was about as cold, the peach crop was very abundant.

Very different has been the effect of the present winter. After the buds had become swollen as above described, five degrees below zero during the latter part

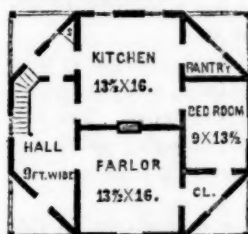
of last month, destroyed about half the buds, including those which had become most prominent; and nine degrees below on the 5th of the present month, destroyed about nine-tenths of the remainder. Every one, except the rare few which had been started or had swollen but little, has been destroyed.

Fig. 3 shows the magnified appearance of the interior of a fruit bud which has been killed—the outer part of the bud being uninjured; but the inner part, consisting of the petals and anthers, turned brown or nearly black. It sometimes happens that the color is less changed, and they present the yellow appearance of a half decayed or frozen apple. But all uninjured buds, when cut through the center, are always fresh, plump, and sound, without any change of color. This difference in the color of the interior of the fruit buds, as most fruit-growers are aware, readily indicates whether a peach crop may be expected the following season.

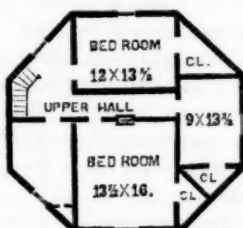


Small Octagon House.

The object in this plan has been to arrange a house for a small family, where the mistress has to do or see to her own work, and to secure the most conveniences for the least cost.



PRINCIPAL FLOOR.



CHAMBER PLAN.

This house is erected in what is called a balloon frame. The lower rooms are 8 feet 8 inches high, the upper rooms 8 feet. Roof to project two feet. Cellar wall 18 inches above ground. Weather boards either common clapboards or vertical inch boards battened. The plan explains itself, and is thought to be very convenient. Cellar stairs under hall stairs. Chimney in the center. Hall lighted as other rooms from the side, rendering the cupola unnecessary. Sides 13 1/2 feet long inside. Built with four inch scantling, it is about 33 1/2 from outside to outside. L. H. REYNOLDS. Occoquan, Va. [We have re-drawn and reduced the plan, made one or two very slight improvements, and added an elevation. We cannot give the precise cost, but think it should be well and plainly built for twelve hundred dollars. Eds.]

The LONG-ISLAND LANDS advertised in this paper, are worthy the attention of all those who think of changing their location.

Feeding Spring Pigs.

MESSRS. EDITORS—I would like you to let me know the best mode of raising spring pigs—what feed will make them grow the fastest. I have a lot of very fine sows, Chester, Berkshire and Suffolk crossed. G. W. EVANS.

The best food for young pigs is milk—first from the sow, and after this ends, skim-milk from cows. In all changes of the food of animals, the transition should be gradual. Sudden changes always injure. Pass gradually from new milk to skim-milk, and from the latter to sour milk. If there is not enough skim-milk and sour milk for all the pigs can eat through spring and summer, then reduce their number. Or, barley or pea meal may be gradually added and increased in quantity. As the pigs grow larger and the milk decreases, grain takes its place. There is a great mistake often made in feeding milk to pigs, by allowing slop and dish-water to be thrown into it, which dilutes it, and consequently the animal cannot take in enough for his most rapid growth. Feed the milk in its concentrated state. We have known spring pigs fed for the first few months with all the milk they could eat, and afterwards properly fattened, that weighed 300 to 350 pounds at ten months.

Creek Mud and Compost.

Is creek mud, obtained from the small creeks running up into our salt marshes, of any value as a fertilizer? If so, how is the best way to apply it, and to what crop? Can you give the result of any experiment with it? I have used it alone, but with no benefit. I have since thought that by composting it with lime the effect would be better. Is Mapes' salt and lime mixture to be preferred? (which, by the way, is too complicated for the ordinary farmer.) By giving the above information you would not only oblige me, but many farmers living near the salt water.

I have used the salt meadow turf with much advantage, by drawing it in my cow yard and hog pens to decompose. W. B. Perth Amboy, N. J.

In judging of the value of creek mud, we must know its sources and the character of the land to which it is applied. Where the quantity of water is small, and where much animal matter is thrown in from slaughter houses, manure yards, &c., it may deposit valuable matter. But this is rarely the case,—for more commonly, nothing is deposited but the washing of the earthy banks, or soil from fields; hence the mud is little better than the same quantity of earth thrown over the land. It has the advantage only of being free from stones, and hence may be conveniently used in some cases as the earthy constituents of compost. Sometimes it happens that streams run rapidly through a clayey region, and deposit a good addition to the more sandy lands they afterwards pass through; and at other times rapid streams may bring down a good sandy dressing for heavy soils. In the latter instances it will only pay to cart on gardens. As a general rule, the slow and long continued deposits in still ponds, is apt to be more valuable than the rapidly heaped sediments from running creeks. We know of no practical trials of the mixture referred to.

It is said Prince Albert has consented to be chosen to the Presidency of the London Hort. Society, in place of the late Duke of Devonshire.

Value of Mowing and Reaping Machines.

LUTHER TUCKER & SON—I see doubts are expressed by some correspondent of the Country Gentleman, as to the mowing machine being a money saving farm implement. Having had some experience, I would like to say something on this point.

In 1856, we had a field of heavy and badly lodged clover, which was partly cut with scythes and partly with a mowing machine made by Walter Wood. The best that could be done with the hand mowing, was to cut a half of an acre to a man in a day. The stubble was then left in such a condition that the hay had to be gathered with a hand-rake. Having gone over some acres in this way, we concluded to try the machine—and found that by driving very fast we could do the work to our satisfaction; leaving the stubble in a condition to be raked with a common revolving horse-rake, following around in the direction taken by the mower. We had two pairs of horses in the field, changing teams as often as necessary; these two pairs of horses, a man to drive them, and the machine, earned in a day, twenty dollars—paying for the work done the same price it would have cost had we kept the scythes at work, and doing it much better.

The same season we had a field of eight acres of oats, lodged and tangled so badly that it would have required sixteen days work with scythes to cut it. In less than a day, a team and two men with the machine, put the whole into gavels—doing the work much more nicely, and saving more grain, than would have been possible with scythes.

When we first commenced using the machine, we supposed it could only be used in standing grain and grass, and on comparatively level ground, but experience has taught us that its greatest value is in tangled and lodged crops, and that it can be used wherever a wagon will run without turning over.

We do all our mowing and harvesting, and gather our clover seed, with the same machine—"Wood's Manny"—and in every case it does its work cheaper and better than hand labor can do it.

Last fall we cut a little over fifty bushels of clover seed in less than a day, with a man to cast off the gavels, a boy to drive, and one pair of horses. What did the machine earn that day?

In cutting clover for seed, we set the machine so as to cut higher than we cut for hay—in fact only intending to cut low enough to get all the seed. The gavels require turning two or three times, according to the weather, and then with a barley fork (long wooden tines,) carefully lift on the wagon, handling as little as possible to save shelling.

In mowing and reaping, let all the dew and rain get off before you commence cutting. The grass or grain will dry quicker standing than it will after it is cut, and it cuts better when dry than when wet.

There is one important measure that NOW is the time to attend to: get all the stones and sticks, and every thing that will endanger the machine, off the meadows, so that when the busy season of haying comes, you can go ahead without fear. GEO. GEDDES. Fairmount, Onondaga Co., N. Y.

A controversy of Scythes vs. Mowing Machines, seems to be bringing us in a retrograde position as to Agricultural implements. All such discussions are valuable, but one great element in the calculations is omitted on both sides. A man can easily cut an acre a day, if that acre yields one ton of hay; but on a hot day, in grass of two tons, can he do it? or at all events, can he cut twelve tons in a hot week? Can he cut half an acre of tangled clover? Then, again, a good mower must begin at an early hour in the morning, and what piles of wet grass must be opened after him at 9 or 10 o'clock. A boy cannot spread hay as the machine does it, after two men who will cut two acres a day. In good grass I do not want to cut more than four acres a day. This I can do between 8 and 12 o'clock, and in the afternoon put it in small cocks, and if the weather is threatening, my hay covers make all safe.

I have often been asked for advice as to mowing ma-

chines, and my answer is for ten acres of mowing it will not pay, and as to a company machine, every man wants it on the same day, and one careless man breaks twice as much as his neighbor. A mowing machine is not a lendable article, except the borrower will use it *on your own farm*. The Allen machine is decidedly my favorite for simplicity, ease of draught, and close cutting. Two inches off of the lower end of each spear of grass, makes a heavy odds in the produce of an acre. W. H. DENNING. Fishkill Landing.

Long-Island Lands.

TO THE EDITORS—In answer to inquiries by your readers, I have added to my notice of Long-Island land, a more full description of it and the country.

Probably but few persons have a correct knowledge of the Island—of its extent and resources, its climate, soil, and history. It is more than 140 miles long, by an average breadth of more than 10 miles, embracing more than 1,400 square miles. It has a sea coast of 300 miles, with numerous harbors and bays and streams; some of great extent and capacity. These bays and streams abound in fish and wild fowl in the greatest numbers; they are inexhaustible. Of the 500 varieties of birds and wild fowl that are found on the North American continent, near 300 varieties are found on and frequent this beautiful and highly favored Island. It is the great half-way house of the migratory tribes of birds; in their annual wanderings they give Long-Island a call.

I have in my advertisement, endeavored simply to set forth the facts, not learnedly but understandingly, and they cannot be disputed. I am prepared to sustain the whole by any amount of proof. E. F. PECK, M.D.

Experiments in Potato Culture.

The proper mode of cultivating the potato seems to be a subject of interesting inquiry at the present time. I wrote you some time since my experience and observation concerning the one-eye system. I shall adopt that mode this season, but shall add to it another important item—that is, a *change of seed*. I believe it will well pay a farmer to take a day's journey to exchange seed, if he plant but one acre.

I last year saw a field of potatoes planted partly with seed that had been raised on the farm, and partly with seed brought only a distance of five miles. The latter were worth double the former, though planted side by side at the same time, and receiving the same culture.

An idea has prevailed quite extensively in this quarter, that rich land was dangerous to the potato crop, and that barn-yard manures should never be used.

I last year broke up an old pasture lot—furrowed it out about six inches deep—dropped the seed in the furrow, and covered with a good forkful of horse manure. After hoeing, gave each hill a handful of plaster. The vines were blighted too early for a good crop, but the potatoes were not injured by the rot, and they were considered a better crop than those planted in the neighborhood without manure.

I also tried the experiment of dropping the seed on sod, and covering with straw, chip manure, and horse manure. These three experiments gave equal results, and were satisfactory for the season. M. F. Carlisle, Schoharie Co., N. Y.

In answer to G. W., we would state that the postage on the Cultivator is six cents a year. The law is so plain upon the subject, that that there is room for no dispute about it.

Notes, Inquiries, &c.

PLASTER AND ASHES.—*M. F.*, Carlisle, N. Y., writes that he "has the authority of a good practical chemist" for stating that these never should be mixed—their union being said to form a substance "almost as insoluble as cast-iron." He adds:—

"I am aware that this is contrary to the practice of most farmers in this section of the country, but I can find none who have tried the mixture, that can give any satisfactory assurance that they have been benefited by it. Two years ago; I mixed six hundred pounds of plaster with about fifteen bushels of leached ashes and an equal quantity of hen manure, for a top dressing for corn after first hoing. I could observe no benefit from the application."

We do not think the non-effect of the mixture can be accounted for on the above hypothesis. The sulphate of lime acting on the carbonate of potash of the ashes, might possibly produce a carbonate of lime, and a sulphate of potash, but in these forms they would be equally soluble. We should be glad to know if other correspondents have found that either plaster or ashes loses its beneficial effect when the two are compounded?

NEW-YORK STATE AG. SOCIETY.—The *Germantown Telegraph*, in publishing the list of officers recently elected by this Society, remarks:

"It is with great pleasure that we see the name of Ex-Chancellor McCORM of Long Island, at its head, the present year, as President; for we believe that a better, a more disinterested, and a more devoted friend of Agriculture, is not to be found within the limits of the State. Then, too, there is the old, long tried, and oft-proved Col. JOHNSON, the Corresponding Secretary, who has not only never come short of his duty, but has always gone far beyond it, and to whose untiring exertions we verily believe the Society owes its prolonged existence and usefulness. And there is Mr. TUCKER, also, the unflinching friend of the farmer, and one of the very pillars of the Society, whose best labors have been freely bestowed upon this honorably and ably conducted and most beneficial institution."

The editor has fallen into the same mistake as many other papers. It is the *Junior* Mr. TUCKER who was chosen Treasurer of the State Ag. Society. His "labors" in its behalf are those of the future, rather than of the past, but the *Senior* trusts they will prove, when opportunity may offer, as faithful and efficient, as they certainly will be heartily and cheerfully bestowed.

PLANTING KING PHILIP CORN.—In answer to the inquiry of "G. D.," I would advise him to plant his King Philip corn in drills, say 3½ feet apart, and the stalks about 7 or 8 inches apart in the drills—or it may be planted in hills of 3 stalks each, about 3 feet one way and 2 feet the other. The stalk is very small, and may therefore stand nearer together than the stalks of larger corn. If planted thin, the failure results from there not being enough stalks to give a productive crop. That is all. It will not succeed well on poor soil. *SENEX.*

INQUIRY.—Can you or some of the subscribers to your valuable paper, inform me through the *Cultivator*, how to cure a valuable mare of mine. The first appearance of the disease or sprain, is a stiffness and difficulty of raising the hind legs. There is considerable swelling across the small of the back, and also farther back over the hips. The urine is very much colored. One leg swells considerably; the other does not swell at all. The stiffness is confined entirely to her hind legs. She has been so three times. The first time was two years ago this spring; then again a year ago, and again this spring, each time in the month of March. Does the time of year have any thing to do with it? The first time being from home with her, I drove her

home, a distance of seven miles, without any apparent injury. This was on Friday; on the next Monday I drove her, she being to all appearance as well as ever. She has not been as bad either time since as at first. Hard work, heavy drawing, and fast driving, do not seem to hurt her. *A SUBSCRIBER.*

MILK WASTING FROM THE TEATS OF COWS.—Your correspondent, P. M'C, inquires for a remedy. Let him get from the druggist a small quantity of *Collodion*, or "liquid cuticle," and when the cow has been milked, apply it to the end of the teats. It instantly will form a thin tough skin, which will close the orifice and prevent the omission of the milk. At milking time the false skin can be broken through, and the cow milked, and the *Collodion* again applied. In a week or ten days there will be no necessity for further application, as the defect will be cured. *D. L. ADAIR.*

MESSRS. FOWLER & WELLS, publishers, of New-York, whose series of "Hand-Books for Home Improvement" we have favorably noticed heretofore, announce a forthcoming series to be entitled "*The House*," on Rural Architecture generally; "*The Garden*," a pocket manual of practical horticulture; "*The Farm*," including general Agriculture; and "*Domestic Animals*," embracing Bees, Dogs, Rabbits, &c., as well as larger farm stock. Price 30 cts. each or \$1 for the four. We have no doubt they will be practically prepared, and worth more than their cost to the purchaser.

Butter Making.

Mrs. JULIA PARKHURST of Jackson, Clinton Co., beaten by **Mrs. MARY ANN WOOLLEY** of Oswegatchie, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., who made from two cows, commencing April 2, 1857, and ending Jan. 9, 1858, four hundred and ninety-seven pounds of butter—366 lbs. of which were sold for twenty-five cents per pound; the balance, with what milk was needed, was used in a family of six adult persons.

Our secret of making good butter, and a good deal of it, is, first, good cows—second, good winter care and keeping; and third, thorough milking and proper management of milk and cream when we get it.

During the summer my cows have poor pasturing as I live within half a mile of the village of Ogdensburgh, where pasturing is poor and scarce, but I feed my cows no extra feed during summer. *JOEL M. WOOLLEY, Ogdensburgh, N. Y.*

Hints on Carrot Culture.

All who raise carrots are aware that much depends upon early hoeing and thinning. The carrot, at first, is so small as to be hardly discernible, and many wait too long before they commence to hoe, allowing the weeds to get the advantage; and no amount of hoeing can insure a good crop after it has once been overrun and choked with weeds. The plan I adopt to enable me to distinguish the rows as soon as any other garden vegetable, is to mix and sow with the carrot seed, a small quantity of radish seed, as that starts quick, has a broad leaf, and can easily be told from any weed. This enables me hoe as soon as the carrot is above ground, or a week or two sooner than without. They can be pulled out at the first hoeing, or allowed to remain till they acquire some size, and you have a crop of radishes without much injury to the carrot, if they are not suffered to remain too long. *D. E. L. Ballston Center.*

Inquiries and Answers.

HEN MANURE.—I have on hand a few barrels of hen manure and of lime, and would like to know the best method of applying it to my corn crop—whether it is best to put it in the hill or on the corn—what proportion to mix them, when to mix them, and the quantity per acre? **NASSAU.** [Hen manure is ten or fifteen times stronger than common yard manure. It may be mixed with several times its bulk of loam, stirred well, allowed to remain a few weeks, if convenient, to allow it to impregnate the loam, and then be applied in the hill. Or the hen manure may be sowed broadcast, well harrowed into the earth, and then turned under lightly with a gang plow or otherwise, and the quantity used per acre must be in accordance with this strength. The lime may be treated in the last mentioned way.]

SPANISH CHESTNUT—ORANGE QUINCE.—1. How large is the Spanish Chestnut when full grown, and how far apart should they be set when transplanted from the nursery?—2. Will the Apple or Orange Quince start readily from cuttings, and at what age does it commence bearing? **A. BABCOCK.** *Union Co., Ill.* [1. The Spanish Chestnut is only a variety of the *Castanea vesca*, which grows to a great size, very old trees being known whose heads are 50 to 70 feet in diameter. In open ground, and favorable soil, it would probably require 30 years for the head to attain a diameter of 25 feet.—2. The Apple or Orange Quince, although often raised from cuttings, does not grow so readily as the large French stock. It usually bears in four or five years.]

CULTURE OF MILLET.—I wish to inquire if Millet is profitable for feeding stock through the winter, and if it is good for cleaning meadow land for setting with timothy, and if timothy can be set with it. Also what quantity of seed per acre and what time to sow, and if it must be harvested while in a green state. An answer to the above will oblige **A BALD. CO. SUBSCRIBER.** [Stock of all kinds are fond of Millet hay, if properly cured, and on a good mellow soil three to five tons per acre may be produced. It is not a good crop to seed down with, as it is sown too late in the season for this purpose. It may be sown in Maryland from middle of June to the middle of July, at the rate of 20 to 24 quarts per acre. It should be cut for hay when the seed is about half ripe.]

HEAVES OR BROKEN WIND.—Can you or any of your subscribers inform me what will cure a broken-winded horse, otherwise in good health? I have seen or heard somewhere of an effectual cure, but cannot remember it. **S. Cleves, Ohio.** [Heaves or broken-wind, once established, can be rarely if ever cured—but if always fed on wet, chopped food, it is usually so relieved as to be scarcely perceptible. Good, well cured corn-stalks, are regarded as particularly favorable for the relief or cure of this disease—and corn fed in the cob. A friend, whose fine horse we have long known, assures us that when young he had decided heaves, but was completely cured within five years, by allowing him to have no drink but slops and greasy dish-water, sour milk, &c.]

LOCUST SEED.—Will you please inform me through the Cultivator, whether the seeds enclosed are *Yellow Locust* or some other variety of Locust? Should the seeds be always gathered in autumn, or will they be equally good if they remain upon the trees till early

spring? **LINDLEY H. OSBORNE.** *North Weare, N. H.* [The seeds sent, are of the *Yellow Locust*. They may be gathered at any time after fully ripe—but will never grow till swollen by scalding, and allowed to stand in the water till the swelling is completed.]

SOIL FOR ORCHARDS.—I have a field of 15 or 18 acres, rolling land, limestone soil, sufficiently fertile to produce 35 to 40 bushels corn per acre. It lies high, and is dry and mellow, but is, to all intents and purposes, a southern exposure. Will this field do for fruit, and what sort would suit it best? I had thought of setting it out with apples and peaches, but some of my neighbors say it would do first rate for peaches. I would like to have your opinion. **H. S. Covington, Ky.** [It would doubtless be fine orchard land—but the upper and more windy parts would be best for the peaches, being freer from sharp, still frosts, and favoring an earlier ripening of the wood in autumn.]

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.—If you will inform me the best time to prune peach, plum and cherry trees—also grapevines, you will confer a favor. **J. M. Hartford Co., Ct.** [For young trees, cut off large limbs if required, towards the close of winter, and before the flow of sap—or early in autumn. Smaller branches may be removed at almost any time, but most conveniently during the growing season. Trees properly pruned from the commencement of their growth, never require the removal of large branches—"thumb-pruning," seasonably performed (rubbing off fresh shoots,) will give every tree a symmetrical form and obviate lopping. Shortening-back the shoots and limbs of peach trees, should be done early in spring before growth commences, or at the end of summer. Cherries never need much pruning, except dwarfs. Grapes are pruned at the close of winter, and pinched back when the fruit is as large as small peas.]

LENGTH OF EVENERS OR WHIFFLE-TREES.—I would like to know the measure of an evenner for three horses to be used on the plow. I had one made last fall, but it does not work. What length is necessary for the long evenner, and how long should the short evenner and whiffle-trees be? In giving me this information through the Cultivator, you would accommodate me very much. **A YOUNG FARMER.** [The whole length of the long or three-horse evenner, from hook to hook, (or from bolt to bolt,) should be about four feet and ten inches—or five feet two or three inches in extreme length. The two-horse-evenner should be three feet four inches from hook to hook; and of the one-horse whiffle-trees two feet nine inches. It is perhaps unnecessary to add, that the long evenner should be divided into two parts, so that one arm shall be one foot seven inches long, (for attaching the two horses) and the other three feet two inches. We never heard of but one man who was so stupid as to think the "little horse" ought to have the "little end" of the whiffle-tree, or that the single horse should have the short end of the three-horse evenner—and he did not take any agricultural paper. It was his father who, in taking a bushel of wheat to mill on horse-back, balanced the grain in one end of the bag by a big stone in the other.]

MOWING MACHINES.—There seems to be a glorious but rather embarrassing uncertainty respecting the mowing machines, after reading the articles in your last three or four numbers on the subject. One writer raises the question whether there is any advantage in

using them *at all*—and states the account in favor of the *common scythe*; and as to *which kind* is the best, the inexperienced farmer is left to grope in utter darkness. Do let us have light and assurance, that we may know whether to buy any, and if any which kind. J. W. W. [The articles published, show, we think, that there are several good mowers, though no *one* which all agree in pronouncing *the best*. Some think one the best, and some another; and there is really so little difference between several of them, that it is doubtful whether there will ever be any very general assent to the opinion that either one of them is the best. But no farmer will be disappointed who purchases either of the well tested machines manufactured in this state. Mr. JONN-STON showed pretty clearly in our last no., (p. 193) the advantages of the mowing machine over the scythe. The fact that the mowing can be done at less than one-half the cost with the mower, that it can be with the scythe, to say nothing of the advantage of having it done at the proper time, would seem to settle the matter pretty satisfactorily.]

HUNGARIAN GRASS.—There is a rumor here that the "Hungarian grass" is a crop very *difficult to eradicate* from the fields it is planted in. I wish to plant a few acres of it this season, but if this report is true, I cannot afford to try it till I have more land to *waste* than I now possess. Will you advise me in the matter? F. W. B. Iowa. [The Hungarian grass or millet is an annual, the seeds of which, according to Loudon, will not survive the winter in the ground, and consequently would not liable to the objection alluded to.]

LAME HORSE.—I have a young horse which is lame in the fore nigh leg. It came on very gradually at first, and I could hardly tell which leg was lame. He does not limp any until driven a mile or two. I know he has not been foundered with grain or water. What will cure him? I had a mare that was lame in the same way apparently, about four years ago, which is not lame much now, if any. The best horse doctors we have do not know what ails them. J. S. M.

BONE DUST.—Do you know where pure bone dust can be had from the manufacturer, and the price? H. L. T. [The genuine article can be procured at the manufactory of THOMAS COULSON in this city. The price varies, according to fineness and quantity taken, from \$1.75 to \$2.75 per bbl.]

FARM BOOK.—I will be obliged to you to send me the name of a good agricultural book, wherein I can obtain a practical knowledge of farming—that is, where I can get an idea of the *first rudiments* of farming, commencing with wild land. C. M. F. St. Louis. [We know of no such book. Allen's American Farm Book comes the nearest to it of any work we have—price by mail post-paid, \$1.25]

HUNGARIAN GRASS.—G. W. L., *Mary's Garden*, N. C. You will have seen in the later numbers of the Co. Gent., what this grass is, and where the seed can be obtained. It may be sown in your section from the middle of June to the middle of July, and if the seed can be obtained without too much cost, we would recommend you to make a trial of it. You can order the seed under the name of German Millet, of J. M. Thorburn & Co., New-York.

P. S. Since writing the above we have received the April number of the *Farmer and Planter*, published

at Pendleton, S. C., whose editor, GEO. SEABORN, Esq., says—"The Hungarian Grass is nothing more or less than the Millet which we have been raising now two or three years, and of which we have spoken heretofore. We have any quantity of seed to sell at *two dollars* a bushel—just half what we sold at last year."

MULES.—In answer to the inquiry of C. P. R., (p. 209,) Mr. Solomon Vanderren, Newton, N. J., informs us that he can supply mules of his own breeding, of first quality.

BROKEN WIND.—S., Cleves, Ohio, inquires for a cure of broken wind or heaves in horses. I will give my experience for what it may be worth. Some years ago I had a horse which had the heaves very badly. I fed him cut straw and meal wet. I put with his feed a lump of mutton tallow the size of a hen's egg, to each mess, until I fed about 15 lbs. I knew him three or four years after the cure, but heard of no more heaves from him.

I had a horse that got a large wrought nail in his foot by the side of the frog—made him very lame—had to pull hard to get it out. I cleaned out the hole with a knife; put on beef gall and a large slice of fat salt pork, tied up the foot with a large piece of leather, and in one week it was well. D. P. Schoharie.

OATS FOR SHEEP.—Are oats injurious to ewes with lamb? A neighbor fed several a pint each per day for some time before lambing, and every lamb died soon after birth. Other instances of like kind have come within my knowledge. YOUNG FARMER.

MANURING GRASS LANDS.—When is the best time to apply barn manure to grass lands? Some say spring; others autumn—others still think early autumn the best time, saying it will start a good coat of grass before winter, which protects the roots and gives a much better yield the second year. If applied in the spring, should the turf be harrowed at the time? I wish those who have experimented on the subject would report on these and other particulars interesting to graziers, dairymen, and, in fact, farmers generally. H.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE ROD FENCE.—As the season is now at hand when the fences will require more or less attention, I will advert to an improvement in the "rod fence" that has come under my notice. A description of this fence will be found on page 277 of the *Cultivator* for 1855, and in Co. Gent., vol. 6, p. 58. The improvement to which I allude is the addition of a stake on the *inside joint* of each panel, and between the two upper rails. This may be said to *save a rail*, as it raises the fence in height more than the thickness of a large rail, and at the same time renders it secure against the wind, which sometimes overturns these fences, (when unprotected,) in a wholesale way. The length of the stake must of course correspond with the height of the fence, and the hole in the end of it must be bored to suit the angle at which it is set in the ground; a little practice will make this all plain. I have seen a good fence with a slight bank under it, made in this way with five good rails to the panel, and *six* will be found ample. The *worm* should be about four feet, where the rails are eleven feet long. If these hints shall be of service to any of the readers of your valuable papers, my end will be answered. C. Salem County, N. J.

Notes for the Month.

Award of Our April Premiums.

April 10th was the date fixed for the decision of the second list of prizes offered for subscriptions to our Journals for 1858. Our books show the following result, to which we add the sums respectively received by the same competitors the first of January last:—

	April Prizes.	Jan. Prizes.
I. W. BRIGGS, Wayne Co.,	\$25.00	\$20.00
HENRY WILLIS, Connecticut,	20.00	25.00
HIRAM MILLS, Lewis Co.,	20.00	None.
J. R. HOWARD, Mass.,	15.00	20.00
Westchester Co. (Pa.) Ag. Society,	15.00	15.00
A. S. MOSS, Chautauque Co.,	15.00	15.00
E. BENEDICT, Clinton Co.,	10.00	15.00
J. A. HORTON, New-Jersey,	10.00	10.00
H. SHEPPARD, New-Jersey,	10.00	None.
D. CAMPBELL, Canada,	10.00	None.
A. CARY, Montgomery Co.,	5.00	None.
W. CARPENTER, New-Jersey,	5.00	10.00
E. MERRITT, Dutchess Co.,	5.00	10.00
G. W. COFFIN, do.	5.00	None.
E. T. SHEPPARD, Georgia,	5.00	None.

Our offer specified that if a first, second or third prize on the April list, should be taken by any one who had not been a competitor for the January prizes, it should be somewhat increased. The only instance of the kind is that of Mr. H. MILLS, to whom is accordingly awarded \$25, instead of \$20 as above stated. The amount of subscriptions which takes the lowest of the prizes, is \$34, and the others range all the way up to the highest, which is awarded upon a list amounting to \$247.12. As compared with last year, we are pleased to say that the aggregate of the subscriptions taking prizes, does not show any falling off,—the amount being, in fact, a trifle larger this year than before,—but the aggregate of the premiums offered was also somewhat greater.

Among lists which came very near in amount to those that were actually successful, we may mention the subscriptions sent by H. V. WELTON of Connecticut; S. H. WILLIAMS, JAMES LYON, L. SELLECK and O. P. KNAPP of this State; E. LINK of Tennessee; JAMES SLOAN of North Carolina; P. STEDMAN of Massachusetts; G. C. ROBINSON of Canada; D. C. GETTY of Pennsylvania, and T. H. MATTHEWS of Maryland. To all whom we have named, and a very large number of others,—who were not discouraged from a continuance of their kind exertions during the past winter, by the almost unprecedented scarcity of money, and who have, at considerable personal sacrifice in many instances, so earnestly labored to prevent the revulsion from affecting the interests of our Journals, we tender our sincere thanks. And the fair degree of success which has in many instances crowned their efforts, will, we trust, lead to their protraction, now that the financial skies are growing brighter, in order that, as the summer passes by, the numbers of thinking, reading, improving farmers, may be still further increased, and the losses so many have sustained under the difficulties of the past year, be more than made up through the hints our Journals will suggest toward a better and more remunerative practice.

CARROTS.—The *North British Agriculturist* states that by mixing a small quantity of barley with the carrot seed, the rows of the growing carrots can be easily distinguished, and thus hoeing can proceed previous to the carrot plants appearing at the surface.

REPORT ON MOWERS AND REAPERS.—Since we published the extracts from the Report of the Trial of Mowers and Reapers at Syracuse last summer, several communications and protests have been published in the agricultural papers or circulated in pamphlets, showing various errors committed at the trial, and asserting that awards different from those given, would have been in accordance with justice and facts. The owners of the Ketchum mower think that machine should have received the first premium. The same superiority is claimed for the Allen mower, for Burrall's machine, and others. Some of these claims are argued in a courteous and candid manner, among which that from Thomas D. Burrall is particularly worthy of commendation.

In answer to many inquiries by letter and otherwise, we cannot assume the ability to decide these conflicting claims. The duties of the associate editor of this paper, as one of the committee of judges, were entirely distinct and separate from those of all the other members, being confined chiefly to an examination of mechanical principles; and circumstances not easily controlled prevented his presence when the vote was taken, and the premiums awarded were not in all cases in accordance with his own views. The extracts made in this journal were not presented as a nice balancing of various merits, but as descriptions of the peculiarities of the machines, and as containing many valuable suggestions.

ON STEAM PLOWS.—It has been determined by the Executive Board of the State Ag. Society, in view of the increased demand for some means of stirring and pulverising the soil more cheaply and rapidly than that of plowing by animal power, and of the attention now given to the subject abroad, to offer a prize of two hundred and fifty dollars for a steam plow which should satisfactorily accomplish the object desired. The stipulations requisite in such an implement will be drawn up by the Secretary at an early day, to serve as a basis for the action of the committee on awards, should one or more machines be presented for competition. We are glad to see that this action of the Society places it in the front rank in the inducements extended to inventors on this subject, and we are also happy to note that our Board has had the wisdom to abstain from the extravagance (as to the amount of the premium,) into which some other associations here and abroad have been led. Experience as to one and five thousand dollar prizes, we believe, shows in most instances, that the society offering them has so very high a standard of excellence, that they never can be won, or, on the other hand, they are larger than the real deserts of the case, inasmuch as the first machines presented are seldom practically successful. The object is to lead inventors to "think the matter up," until such ideas and improvements by degrees accumulate, as to furnish in the end, the complete machine. A few hundred dollars, with the certainty of getting it, if fairly deserved, will, we predict, be quite as successful in doing this as the thousand [unawarded] guineas offered by the British Societies.

FARMERS, SHOW WHAT YOU CAN DO.—At the suggestion of one of the most practical men and best farmers on the Board, the State Ag. Society will add to its prizes on crops, one of *One Hundred Dollars* for the best field of Indian Corn of not less than 10 acres, and

the product to average not less than *one hundred bushels to the acre!* When that thousand bushels or more are harvested, our readers shall have the particulars. Meantime a little energetic effort on the part of every farmer in the State, if he can't quite come up to the above, still to do the best he can, and come as near it as possible, would add a sum to the productive wealth of every town from the Hudson to Lake Erie, compared with which all the prizes the Society offers would be small. Farmers, show what you can do!

AN EDITORIAL EXPERIMENTER.—Among the transactions of the Executive Committee of the State Ag. Society at their meeting in this city last week, was the award of the \$75 premium for Experiments on Indian Corn to Mr. JOSEPH HARRIS of the *Genesee Farmer*. No man understands better how such trials should be conducted to be of practical use, and we may add that none can do the requisite field work more carefully and note the results more clearly. His experiments in the present instance are of peculiar interest, and the results, if established by their further repetition, will be of great value. The Journal of the Society, to be issued in a few days, will contain them, and those who are interested in the subject or who propose to compete for the premiums offered for the present season, should obtain a copy. We will endeavor to refer to the matter more at length at an early opportunity.

POTATO PLANTING.—We would call attention to Mr. HOWATT's article on potato culture in this number, and particularly to the manner in which he prepares his seed for planting. It will be seen that he cuts his potatoes, leaving but one eye to each piece, three or four weeks before planting, and immediately mixes them with lime. The pieces are then left to dry until they are wanted for planting, when they, although dry and shrivelled, will be found to have started strong buds, ready for a vigorous growth when placed into well prepared soil. Hon. A. B. DICKINSON of Steuben, who raises large quantities of potatoes, practices a somewhat similar method, only that he covers the cut potatoes with tar diluted with warm water, instead of lime.

LEGHORN FOWLS.—We are indebted to Mr. JOHN A. CASTERLINE of Dover, N. J., for a pair "of choice Leghorn fowls of pure blood." They are a very pretty pair of birds, and are well described in the 9th vol. Co. Gent., p. 237, and in the Cult. for 1857, p. 150. Mr. C informs us that he keeps a large number of this variety.

FANNING AND ASSORTING MACHINE.—Mr. R. NUTTING of Randolph, Vt. has exhibited to us a model of his Fanning and Assorting Machine, which, it appears us, must eventually take the place of all our common fanning mills. While occupying no more space and requiring no more power than the ordinary mills, it not only separates the chaff from the grain, but will separate oats, chess, grass and all foul seeds from wheat, and even assort the wheat, placing the large and plump and the shrivelled kernels in separate apartments. It was thoroughly tested at the Vermont and New Hampshire State Fairs last autumn, but we regret to say that as yet Mr. N. has made no arrangement for the manufacture and sale of this valuable machine.

GREAT FAIR AT ST. LOUIS.—The St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association, which has held two or more very successful Fairs in that city, is now making preparation for its next autumn Fair, which,

from the spirit manifested by the Managers of the Society, and the citizens of the city, promises to be a more important industrial exhibition than has ever been held in this country. The Association having made out its Premium List, amounting to \$16,000—a larger sum than ever before offered in this country—they have called upon the citizens to render their aid, by adding such special prizes as any individual or individuals might deem beneficial to themselves or to the public. This call has been heartily responded to, and the prospect is that the total amount of premiums to be offered will be at least \$30,000. Among these voluntary premiums, we notice that the butchers offer \$500 for fat cattle—the brewers \$500 for the best crops of barley, and the livery stable keepers \$500 on horses, carriages, and hay and oats—\$200 are offered for the best labor-saving machine—\$500 for the best hemp breaking machine—\$200 for the best plan of a country house—\$25 for the best pair of capons, and the same for the six best sugar cured hams—a reaping and mowing machine for the best wheat—\$100 for the best hemp—\$100 for the best swine—\$100 for the best contrivance for escaping from a burning house—\$100 for the best specimen of work made by an apprentice under 21 years of age, &c.

OBITUARY.—Notices of two sudden and recent deaths among agricultural writers have been crowded out of our columns for several weeks. EDWARD P. ROBERTS, Esq., long a contributor, and at one time, we think the editor and publisher of the *American Farmer*, Baltimore, suffered a stroke of apoplexy which he only survived a few days. Prof. T. B. HUDSON, of Oberlin, O., whose pen was familiar to the readers of the *Ohio Farmer*, was run over and instantly killed by a train of cars on the railroad between that place and Cleveland. In both these sad events, the cause of Agriculture suffers a severe bereavement, and in the former of them, one of its oldest supporters in this country is taken away.

CONVENTION OF AGRICULTURAL EDITORS.—We have received from the office of the *American Agriculturist*, a circular proposing a convention of the editors of Agricultural and other journals giving more or less attention to rural affairs, to be held, it suggests, some time in June, at such place as may be agreed upon. The COUNTRY GENTLEMAN has no doubt a very pleasant time might be had, and would endeavor to be represented.

DOMESTIC WINES.—We are indebted to JAMES M'CREEDEY 2d, Plattsburgh, for two bottles of wine—one made from the strawberry, and the other from native grapes, for which he will accept our thanks.

CABBAGES.—The value of cabbages for dairy stock, and also for breeding stock, and cattle that are being fattened, is not sufficiently appreciated. So says the North British Agriculturist. Of course it recommends the culture of this crop on a more extensive scale, as also the selection of the larger varieties, and the making the land manurially rich. Weight for weight, cabbage is equal to turnips, and the quantity which can be grown on an acre greatly exceeds that of turnips.

The Davidson Co. (Tenn.) Ag. Society hold a spring fair at Nashville, on the 4th to 9th of May. Premiums for stock, &c., are offered, the same as at the usual autumn fairs.

INQUIRY AWAKENED.—We find abundant evidence that our paper is well read and a spirit of inquiry awakened, by the constant call for further information on the subjects discussed, particularly in regard to the practical every-day business operations of the farm. A correspondent writes us as follows: "I wish to notice one fact which indicates that your paper has a wide circulation. Since my article appeared in the Co. GENT. of Feb. 18, I have received over a dozen letters referring to it, and asking for further information, from nearly as many different States." Another correspondent says—"I wish you would remind people to give their post-office address when writing for information. I have received an enormous number of letters in reference to matters discussed in my articles, most of them enclosing a stamp to pre-pay postage, but many of them lacking the information necessary to enable me to answer—some having the post-office, but without the State, and some without even the name of the post-office." We are greatly troubled with such letters, and we would that it could be deeply impressed upon every one who writes a letter, that the first thing to be done is to write the name of the post-office and State on the top of the first page. Such a course would save much trouble and vexation.

THOROUGH-BRED HORSES FOR OREGON.—Mr. JOHN P. WELSH, who purchased of JOHN B. BURNET of Syracuse, the celebrated thorough-bred horse *Consternation*, for \$3,500, with the intention of taking him to Oregon this season, has, as we are informed by a gentleman who saw Mr. Welsh a few days since, concluded to let *Consternation* stand in Kentucky the present season, to serve thorough-bred mares. Mr. Welsh has purchased in Kentucky, *Rifleman*, a very superior thorough-bred colt of great substance, and promising to be a most valuable horse. *Rifleman*, bay colt, foaled May, 1855, by "Glencoe," out of the dam of "Marksman and Frazier," winner of the first prize in the ring for thorough-breeds, at the Fayette Co. Fair, held at Lexington, Ky., and also at the State Fair at Paris, Ky., in the year 1856. We congratulate our friends in Oregon on this addition to their stock. Mr. Welsh sailed by the steamer of 1st April, and took this valuable horse with him.

TO NERVOUS SUFFERERS. A retired Gentleman having been restored to health in a few days, after many years of nervous suffering, will send (free) to assist others, a copy of the prescription, and a supply of the remedy, on receiving a stamped envelope bearing the applicant's address. Direct to the Rev. JOHN M. DAGNALL, 186 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. May 1—m3t.

Blood and Wool Manure,

ROTHWELL'S, in Bags or Barrels, for sale by
A. LONGETT,
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Hay and Cotton Press.

DERICK'S PARALLEL LEVER HAY AND COTTON PRESSES, for compact pressing, are still manufactured in Albany, N. Y. They are being shipped to all parts of the Union and Canada, and in every case give the most perfect satisfaction. This press was awarded the great medal, (first prize) at the Fair of the U. S. Agricultural Society, held in Syracuse, N. Y., in 1857. For circulars, with full explanatory engravings and numerous first class references, apply personally or by mail to the undersigned. Presses constantly on hand. Orders solicited.
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April 15—weow4tm1t. Albany, N. Y.

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PLANTS sent by Express, far and near, at \$2 per 1,000. To dealers who order 10,000 or more at a time, \$1.50 per 1,000. Boxed and delivered at Railroad without charge. Plants will be ready early in May.

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April 1—weow3tm1t

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A BOOK FOR EVERY FARMER.

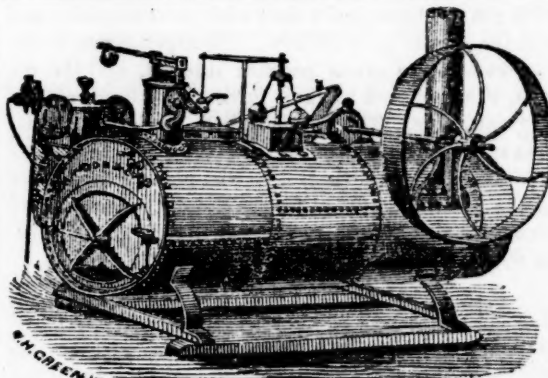
THE FARMER'S PRACTICAL HORSE FARRIERY—12 mo. 198 pages—price only 50 cents.

Besides containing ample directions for doctoring Horses, and a large number of valuable receipts, it contains the GREAT SECRET of Breaking, Taming and Training, and a fund of information on almost everything relating to the management of Horses, written in a clear and simple style—worth many times its cost to any man who keeps a horse. Sent free of postage on receipt of price.

Address E. NASH, Publisher,

March 18—weow&m3ms

Auburn, N. Y.



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PORTABLE STEAM ENGINES,

for Farm, Mechanical, and Plantation purposes.

We have made great improvements in our Engines recently, particularly in the manner of setting the tubes in the boilers, (by Prosser's Patent,) adding a large wrought-iron dome in place of small cast ones,—increased the size of fire-box, with ash-pans that can be closed up tight or opened at pleasure; also in the manner of connecting the governor to throttle, making it direct action.

We can also furnish the Engines with Judson's governor valves, which are superior to any others, at from \$15 to \$40 extra, according to size of engine.

Saw, Corn, and Grain Mills supplied at manufacturer's prices.

Parties wishing Circulars with cuts of Engines, &c. should enclose P. O. stamp to pay postage on the same. The following is our

PRICE LIST FOR 1858.

Horse power	Cash price	Estimated weight	Space occupied	Fly-wheel diameter	Face of wheel
1½	\$175	1,000 lbs.	2 by 5 ft.	24 in.	4 in.
2½	250	2,000 "	4 by 5 "	39 "	5½ "
3	300	2,200 "	5 by 5 "	39 "	5½ "
4	355	2,500 "	7 by 5 "	40 "	6 "
6	550	3,600 "	7 by 5 "	44 "	7 "
8	700	4,800 "	9 by 6½ "	48 "	8 "
10	875	6,000 "	10 by 6½ "	60 "	8 "
12	1,050	7,500 "	14 by 6½ "	72 "	12 "
15	1,300	9,000 "	15 by 7 "	72 "	12 "
20	1,700	10,000 "	16 by 7 "	72 "	12 "

The 20 horse power Engine is furnished with extra 2 ft. pulley, 14-inch face.

The above prices include boxing and delivery on board cars or boat. For further particulars see our general Circular.

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WARRANTED of pure breed, and at a low figure,
WILLIAM J. PETTEE,
June 11—w&mtf Lakeville, eConn.

MAPES' WROUGHT IRON AND STEEL SUBSOIL PLOWS, including the "One-Horse Subsoil," for sale at Agricultural Depot, 100 Murray-st., New-York. April 15—w2mtt

HENRY F. DIBBLEE.

FOR SALE,

A BAY STALLION, three years old next June—got by Young Kentucky Hunter, out of a Morgan mare. He is a very superior colt. Address O. S. CURTIS, care BARKER, WHITAKER & Co., Providence, R. I. March 25—w2mtt

SUFFOLK PIGS

FOR SALE, at moderate prices, by **W. H. CLAY**, South Side P. O., Staten Island, or 82 Wall-st., New-York. March 25—w1mtt*

THE CONCORD GRAPE.

THE originator of this new Grape offers for sale a fine stock, raised from the parent vine. It has fully sustained its reputation as the

Best Grape for Out-Door Culture,

having survived the last two severe winters unharmed, where the Isabella, Catawba, and other vines were killed to the ground.

For Size, Beauty, Quality and Bearing,

It is unsurpassed. It is perfectly hardy, and has never been affected by rot or mildew, while it ripens from three to four weeks earlier than the Isabella, and two weeks earlier than the Diana, in the garden of the proprietor.

The following are some of the testimonials that have been received from different sources, respecting this Grape:—

"We have received from E. W. Bull of Concord, a fine specimen of the Concord Grape. This new seedling is attracting much attention among horticulturists, and deservedly. It is a large and handsomely clustered grape, and the flavor of the specimens we have tasted is superior to that of the Isabella."—[Boston Journal, Sept., 1854.]

"I have taken the liberty to give you the impressions my late visit to your garden produced in my mind. The exhibition of your new Seedling Grape, now laden with its luscious fruit, was to me perfectly satisfactory. The size, beauty, rich bloom and fine flavor of the grape, fully answer the glowing descriptions that have been given to it. None can look upon the wonderfully luxuriant vines, loaded with their rich clusters, without resolving to obtain one for his own garden."—[Rev. A. Bullard, Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 19, 1854.]

Mr. Miller of Calmdale, Penn., says: "Last summer, when all my native and foreign vines lost most of their foliage, the Concord was the only vine which kept its foliage throughout."

"We tested at our late State Fair, several specimens of this new Eastern Grape, and were agreeably disappointed in it. The berries are from a fourth to a third larger than either the Isabella or Catawba; the bunches are larger and heavier; the vine is far harder than any other of northern origin; and the fruit ripens from three weeks to a month earlier."—[Horace Greeley, New-York Tribune, Sept., 1854.]

"I regret the Grapes I received from you did not keep longer. They gave the utmost satisfaction, and every good judge of fruit said they were *decidedly better than the Isabella*."—[I. D. Ingersol, Iliou, N. Y., Oct., 1854.]

"The most beautiful of the new hardy Grapes is undoubtedly the Concord."—[J. F. Allen, Report Mass. Hort. Society, 1854.]

"The testimony in favor of this Grape is certainly very full and from well known horticulturists. It may be pronounced large, handsome and excellent."—[Horticulturist, Dec., 1855.]

Opinions of the Mass. Hort. Society.

1852, Sept.—"Seedling Grape from Mr. Bull, large, handsome and excellent."

1853, Sept.—"Fully equal to specimens last year, and proves to be a remarkably early, handsome, and very superior grape."

The Mass. Agricultural Society at its exhibition in 1857, awarded to the "Concord" the *first premium* of \$20, for the best hardy seedling grape equal or "superior to the Isabella." The Society also gave the first premium to the wine from this grape.

Be sure to get your vines from nurserymen of established reputation. Any quantity of spurious vines have been sold for Concord, even in the vicinity of its production.

Prices for 1858, from 50 cents to \$3.

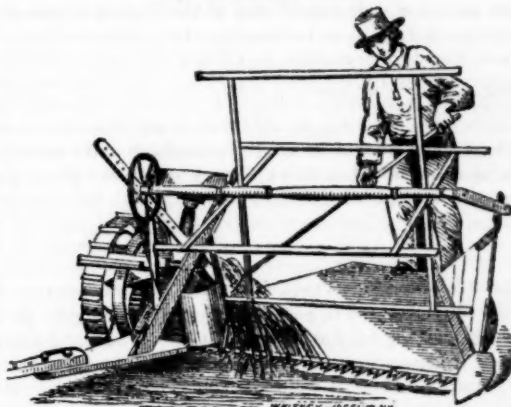
A liberal discount made to the trade.

Orders, with cash or good reference, promptly attended to. Address **E. W. BULL**, Concord, Mass. March 25—eow3mtt.

GAUSE'S Garden Truck Cultivators, for vegetables in rows, for sale at Agricultural Depot, 100 Murray st., New-York. **HENRY F. DIBBLEE.** April 15—w2mtt

For the Harvest of 1858.

The best Combined Reaping and Mowing Machine in use, as endorsed by the United States Agricultural Society.



Manny's Patent with Wood's Improvement.

IT is with much pleasure and renewed confidence, that I offer my machine to the Farmers for the coming harvest, with all its improvements and increased high reputation as a combined Machine and single Mower. The large sale the past season, and great success at the National Trial of Harvest Implements at Syracuse in July last, where it was awarded one Gold and two Silver Medals, is conclusive to every unprejudiced farmer that it is the most approved machine of the kind in use, and the subscriber begs to say that they will be perfect and complete in workmanship and material, and are offered to them on terms accommodating and suited to the times. With each machine will be furnished two scythes, two extra guards, two extra sections, one extra pinion, and wrench.

Warranted capable of cutting from 10 to 15 acres of grass or grain per day, in a workmanlike manner.

Price of Machines as heretofore The Combined Machine varies in price according to width of cut and its adaptation in size and strength to different sections of the country, from \$125 to \$150, delivered here on the cars.

Price of Single Mower, steel Bar..... \$115.00

WALTER A. WOOD,

Manufacturer and Proprietor,

April 22—w4ma&mtf

Hoosick Falls, N. Y.

GOOD MEDICINES.

IT IS estimated the **AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL** and **CATHARTIC PILLS** have done more to promote the public health than any other one cause. There can be no question that the Cherry Pectoral has by its thousands on thousands cures of Colds, Coughs, Asthma, Croup, Influenza, Bronchitis, &c., very much reduced the proportion of deaths from consumptive diseases in this country. The Pills are as good as the Pectoral and will cure more complaints.

Everybody needs more or less purging. Purge the blood from its impurities. Purge the bowels, liver and the whole visceral system from obstructions. Purge out the diseases which fasten on the body, to work its decay. But for disease we should die only of old age. Take antidotes early and thrust it from the system, before it is yet too strong to yield.

Ayer's Pills do thrust out disease, not only while it is weak but when it has taken a strong hold. Read the astounding statements of those who have been cured by them from dreadful Scrofula, Dropsy, Ulcers, Skin Diseases, Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Dyspepsia, Internal pains, Billious Complaints, Heart-burn, Headache, Gout, and many less dangerous but still threatening ailments, such as Pimples on the face, Worms, Nervous Irritability, Loss of Appetite, Irregularities, Dizziness in the Head, Colds, Fevers, Dysentery, and indeed every variety of complaints for which a Purgative remedy is required.

These are no random statements, but are authenticated by your own neighbors and your own Physicians.

Try them once, and you never will be without them.

Price 25 cents per Box—5 boxes for \$1.00.

Prepared by Dr. J. C. AYER, Chemist, Lowell, Mass., and sold by all respectable Druggists everywhere.

March 11—wlam—mtf.

Special Notice.

SCHENECTADY, 25th MARCH, 1868.

EDS. COUNTRY GENT.—I see by an advertisement in last Co. Gent., that my friend HORACE EMERY has considerable of old Zack about him—that is, he never knows when he is beat, or at least very reluctantly owns it.

You will observe that he refers to his neighbor PEASE's advertisement, in which he claims to have a superior machine as was clearly established at the United States Agricultural Fair held at Louisville, and claims to have received the first premium, in competition with Emery's machine. Now Emery tries to make out that the premium awarded to Pease did not amount to much, as he says the committee in their report, said they could discover no advantage in Pease's over Emery's machine. We mention this to show of what value Emery considers premiums when given to his competitors; but when he receives premiums, he advertises them as deciding the superiority of his machines. As an evidence of the little reliance to be placed on awards of committees at Fairs when against Emery's machines, he says Mr. Pease did not venture to present his machine in competition with his, at the New-York State Fair held at Buffalo in October last, and where Emery Brothers claim to have received the "first and only premium" on their Horse Power, in connection with their combined Thresher and Winnower.

There could have been but little inducement to draw out Mr. Pease to compete with Emery Brothers for a premium at that time, as there was none offered by the Society on Horse Powers or Thrashing Machines. As there was premiums awarded, it is to be presumed that the committee concluded that such machines, taken together with their exhibitors, formed a very noisy part of the exhibition, and were worthy of notice, so awarded some of those famous medals and diplomas. By so doing, they have caused Emery Brothers to state that they received the first and only premium on their machines at that time, and with apparent intention of leading persons to believe them to be the best among a number of others there exhibited. Now, this statement is incorrect; because they did not receive the first and only premium awarded, as may be seen by reference to the Journal of the N. Y. State Ag. Society, or by medals and diplomas received by me, as the only competitor with Emery Brothers for premiums on Railway Horse Powers, Combined Thrashers and Winnowers, and Thrashers and Separators. In fact, Emery's and mine were the only machines of the kind on the ground.

By referring to the Journal of the State Ag. Society, the premiums on Horse Powers and Thrashing Machines will be found as follows:

G. Westinghouse, Thrasher and Winnower, Silver Medal.

G. Westinghouse, Thrasher and Separator, Silver Medal.
G. Westinghouse, Horse Power, Diploma.

John A. Pitts, Thrasher and Cleaner, Vol. Trans.

John A. Pitts, Sweep Horse Power, Silver Medal.

Emery Brothers, Horse Power, Diploma.

Emery Brothers, Thrasher and Cleaner, Diploma and Silver Medal.

Emery Brothers, Thrasher and Separator, Diploma.

One thing that enabled Emery Brothers to get the Diploma in addition to the very expensive silver medal of one dollar value, was the dexterity shown by Horace in digging up the ground and burying the wheat that had been carried over in the straw by his machine, upon the approach of the committee, as he observed they were giving some attention to that point. He gave as a reason for such work, that he put through the machine some thrashed grain which he saw was carried over in the straw, and said it made him feel very cheap at the time, but I think, had this been the case, he would not have allowed it to remain for a day or so unburied.

Please insert this in your columns, so as to correct wrong impressions that may have been made by the advertisement of Emery Brothers. Yours truly,

April 1—w&mlt

G. WESTINGHOUSE.

Important to

FARMERS AND GARDENERS.

FOR SALE, about 2,000 acres of good garden and farm land, in the town of Islip, Long Island, about 43 miles from the city of New-York, by the Long Island Railroad. This land offers great opportunities for gardeners and farmers who may wish to settle on Long Island, the soil being a fine warm yellow loam, entirely free from stone or swamp; is from 18 inches to 3 feet deep, and will produce by ordinary culture, all kinds of grain and fruits that can be produced in the vicinity or latitude of New-York. There is not much wood on it, though fifteen years ago it was heavily timbered. The whole tract is what may be called an elevated table land, with a southern aspect, sloping to the south about twenty feet to the mile, and at the railroad, on the north side or north end of this tract, the surface is 100 feet above tide water, distant five miles from the shore of the Great South Bay. Good water can be had on any part of the land by wells, which on the north near the railroad, are 40 feet deep, with never failing water, and on the southerly parts from 12 to 20 feet deep. The water on this part of the island is of remarkable purity, and the wells and streams never fail. This part of Long Island is famous for its fine trout streams. The climate is healthy and pleasant; meteorological records show that the temperature is ten degrees milder on Long Island in winter, and 10 degrees cooler in summer than the main shore in the same latitude. The summers on Long Island are particularly pleasant, as the air is always tempered by the sea breeze, and yet there are more clear and sunny days in the year on Long Island, than in any other part of the State of New-York.

Wood and timber grow rapidly on the Island—every 18 or 20 years will produce a growth or crop of wood large enough for market.

The forest trees on this part of the Island are oak in variety, chestnut, hickory, and locust, formerly in great abundance. On my land there is but little oak or chestnut, and but little or no pine of large growth, as the timber and wood have been destroyed by the axe, and by frequent burnings during the past 15 years, though there is a good deal of wood on portions, suitable for fire-wood; on some parts a new and thrifty growth has started, and in some places a change of forest, from pine to oak, seems to be taking place. The shrub or scrub oak of Long Island, about which so much has been said in connection with these lands, is not a tree, nor never can be made a tree, or become a tree, no more than a lilac bush or quince, in any soil, no matter how rich and fertile. It is a distinct shrub or dwarf, called also the *bear oak*, producing great quantities of acorns, and never grows more than 5 or 10 feet high, and on the Island it seems to perform the part of a bramble, to overrun the land.

It is of very vigorous growth, filling the ground full of its roots almost like a mat, and where the forest trees have been destroyed by the axe or fire, these little oaks soon take entire possession of the ground, and grow so rank and vigorous that it smothers and crowds out every thing else. When the ground is cleared or made clear of these roots, by the process of digging them out by the hand, or grubbing, as is the old and common mode on the Island, from twenty to forty loads of these roots are often taken from a single acre, in less than ten inches from the surface, thereby showing the large amount of vegetable matter contained in the soil. The true and economical plan of clearing this land, is to kill and decompose this large quantity of these small roots in the ground, which can be very easily done by cutting over and fallow-burning the land, and then harrowing in a crop of rye or wheat, with clover and grass seed, or it can be plowed with a strong plow, made with a locked-coulter, with a sharp edge on both the coulter and share; with such an instrument, with two yoke of good oxen, the ground can be completely and thoroughly broken up. The large heavy "prairie plow" is not required. There is an abundance of oak and chestnut in the immediate vicinity, where the wood lands have been taken care of.

As to productions, white clover is indigenous; wherever the ground is cleared of trees and bushes, it springs up spontaneously, and any part or all this tract can be filled with red clover by simply putting the seed on the ground after the surface is cleared, without a particle of any fertilizer. All kinds of small fruits are natural and in great abundance, such as whortleberries, blackberries, raspberries, strawberries, and grapes. Apples, pears, cherries, quinces, plums, peaches, and apricots, grow well, and most of these grow in great quantity and high perfection. Wheat, rye, corn, clover, and timothy, and every thing that grows or can be raised on any farm, or in any garden on the Island, are produced in full crops on this land by ordinary culture and without any difficulty—it is easy to clear, and easy to till.

The land near and adjoining the L. I. Railroad is, or has

been, mostly covered with yellow pine; the growth was very heavy on it formerly. It may be here remarked that the pine lands of Long Island are different from and entirely unlike all and any other pine lands in the State of New-York or in New-England, and in this difference consists the great merit of these Island lands for high culture. The soil and subsoil are not loose and porous—the soil is a fine, firm, compact loam, of sufficient tenacity to make sun-dried brick right out of the first 12 or 18 inches of the surface soil, on thousands of acres of these middle Island lands, and yet is not wet, nor cold, nor sour.

I am asked, "Does the land need underdraining?" Answer—No! It is the most completely and perfectly underdrained country in the world,—no art can equal it, no human power can make anything like it.

After penetrating or going through the peculiar covering of the Island, the detritus or soil proper which is everywhere spread over the Island's surface like a crust or blanket, to the depth of from 18 inches to 3 or 5 feet,—in many places to a much greater depth than 5 feet,—after going through this, the fine hard and compact gravel and sand are reached, which everywhere form the main body of the Island. This under structure consists in many places of beautiful sea-washed quartz pebbles, intermixed with fine siliceous sand, all firmly and hardly pressed together, forming the most complete and perfect underdrain or filter. In many places clays are found. "Sands and loams, interstratified with beds of gravel, boulders and clay form the strata of Long Island."—(See Thompson's Hist. of Long Island.) In some parts of the Island clays are very abundant, from which large quantities of brick are made.

It may be inferred from this description, that the earth or soil is leachy, or too porous. It is not so, and this is another peculiarity of the Island. This under-sand and gravel is so firm and hard, that it seems as though they have been under an immense hydraulic pressure—(there are no quicksands.)—they are so firmly pressed together, the interstices so filled with fine comminuted sand, almost levigated, that water does not pass rapidly through it, but percolates slowly and gradually after leaving the surface. After rain the water soon disappears from the surface, so as to leave the soil in a condition to work very soon after. This great underground work forms a vast reservoir of subterraneous moisture or water, so far below the surface as to prevent any injury to vegetation, or not to interfere with the temperature of the earth commonly called "bottom heat," but which supplies the numerous beautiful streams that arise near the central parts of the Island and flow to the shores. The waters of these streams are copious and as clear as crystal, as sweet and pure as water can be, never fail at any season of the year, are nearly or quite as full in July and August as in April and May. Such a thing as a dry mill-pond in the month of August on one of these Island streams, is unknown. There is not a stagnant pool nor stream on the whole Island.

Another remarkable feature is, that on lands or farms not supplied with springs or streams, the manner in which water is held on the surface—the farmers adopt a mode of making "surface pools," or what are termed "watering holes," to afford water for cattle. They are made simply by excavating a sort of basin in some place in the field or on the farm where there is a gentle depression, by *scooping out the earth* two or three feet deep in the middle, and 15 or 20 feet in diameter, and in some places puddling the bottom with clay; in many places they need no puddling, only pressing or treading the soil firmly in the bottom. These places being filled by the rains, retain the water the whole summer without change or putrescence, and which cattle will use freely. It is seldom that one of these watering places fail, even in the driest season. They are made on the elevated parts of the Island, more than 100 feet above tide-water, and may be called "open" or "surface cisterns." I have never seen anything of the kind in any other part of the State of New-York that would hold water during the entire summer. Tornadoes, floods or freshets are unknown on Long Island, nor is the country infested with deadly serpents or poisonous reptiles.

Islip is an old town, having been settled near 200 years; and there are within three miles of this land many elegant and costly mansions, and highly cultivated farms and gardens—schools and churches. These cultivated lands are valued at and now command, from \$100 to \$500 per acre, and they are no better than this now offered. This land will be sold in lots or parcels to suit purchasers, at \$20 per acre. Terms, from 10 to 25 per cent., at the option or convenience of the purchaser, cash, the balance in five years with yearly interest. Title indisputable.

More than fifteen years experience with and observation of these lands, satisfy me beyond all doubt of the truth of every thing I have said in relation thereto, and of the facts I speak from personal positive knowledge, and hold myself responsible to sustain everything I have ever said in

relation to the Island and its lands, water, soil, climate and health.

As a premium or inducement to settle and improve this land, I will give to each purchaser, or settler, who will make improvements, (until further notice,) a commutation ticket to pass over the Long Island Railroad between Brooklyn and North Islip, for one year, and also will carry out all his freight, lumber and building materials, at my own cost or charge for one year.

Address EDGAR F. PECK, M. D.

302 State Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Or apply by letter or in person to Anthony J. Bleecker & Son, No. 7, Broad Street, New-York.

To the Post Master, Suffolk Station, North Islip, Long Island, N. Y.

Refer as to title and quality of land to the Hon. Levi S. Chatfield, (late Attorney General of the State of New-York,) No. 6 Wall Street, New-York.

To the Hon. George Miller, (late Judge and Surrogate of Suffolk County,) Riverhead, Suffolk County, Long Island, N. Y.

Apply also to Samuel Coverly, No. 10 State Street, Boston, and to John H. Wiles, Buffalo, N. Y.

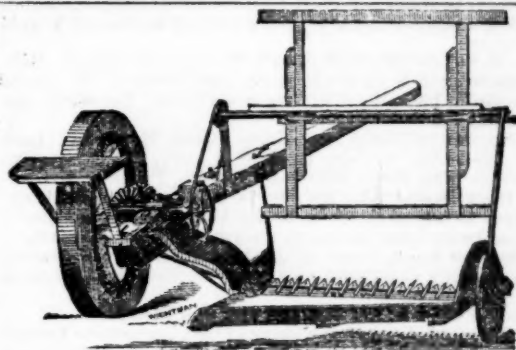
April 22—w&mlt.

Top Onions—Onion Setts,

ALSO a large assortment of FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS, such as Spring Wheat and Rye, Barley, Oats, Broom Corn, King Philip Corn, White Flint, Eight-rowed Yellow, Tuscarora and Sweet Corn, Peas and Beans—of the most approved kinds, together with a great variety of early GARDEN SEEDS, may be found at No. 84 State-st., Albany, N. Y. PEASE & EGGLESTON.

P. S. A lot of two-bushel Cotton Bags for sale.

April 1—w2tmlt



KETCHUM'S

Combined Harvester for 1858,

Without any Frame, and with a Reel!

THE improvements on this celebrated Machine for 1858 will render it the most desirable machine ever offered to the public. Among these improvements are the following:—

1st. An expanding Reel, very simple, and ingeniously arranged so as to be readily attached, and is propelled by the main shaft.

2d. A new, strong and well-braced guard, which will not clog.

3d. An adjustable Roller with a lever, by which the driver, while in his seat, can elevate the finger-bar and hold it in any desired position, for transportation, to pass over obstructions, and to aid in backing or turning corners.

4th. A Roller in the outer shoe, on which the finger-bar rests, which obviates all side draft and very much lessens the direct draft.

THE SIMPLE MOWERS have wrought-iron frames, with all of the other improvements except a Reel. With these improvements the draft of the KETCHUM Machine is as light as any machine known, and by the test with the Dynamometer at Syracuse, by the U. S. Ag. Society last July, the draft of the Reaper was more than one-quarter less than any other of the 13 Reapers on trial. This result is obtained by enlarging the main wheel for Reaping, which lessens the motion of the knives and the actual draft of the machine fully one-quarter.

THE VERY BEST MATERIAL is used throughout, and no pains or money are spared to make the KETCHUM MACHINE what the farmer needs.

Sample machines can be seen at all the principal places, and persons are invited to examine them before buying any other—remembering that THE BEST IS ALWAYS THE CHEAPEST.

R. L. HOWARD,

Buffalo, N. Y.,

(Near N. Y. Central Depot on Chicago-st.)

April 8—w&m3ms

SCHENECTADY AG. WORKS.

FARMERS or others, who have an interest in introducing the best machinery for Farming purposes, are requested to notice our improved Endless Chain Horse Powers, for one, two or three horses, in connection with Over-shot Threshers and Separators, or Combined Threshers and Winnowers. We have been engaged in the manufacture of this kind of machines for a number of years, and have made improvements which make them equal to the best in use. A Circular, with full description of machines made by us, and list of prices for them, may be had by application to us. **G. WESTINGHOUSE & CO.**

March 25—weow6tm3t

Schenectady, N. Y.

Seeds—Seeds—Seeds—Seeds—1858.**ALBANY SEED STORE.**

THE subscriber again offers his annual assortment of genuine Garden, Field, and Flower Seeds, growth of 1857, consisting in part of the following desirable articles: Extra Early, Early and Late Garden Peas, the best new and standard sorts, viz:

EXTRA EARLY—Daniel O'Rourke (true,) Sangster's No. 1, and Cedo Nulli, each 37½ cents per quart; Prince Albert and Emperor, each 25 cents per quart; Tom Thumb, 75 cents per quart.

EARLY—Sebastopol, (new,) 50 cents per quart; Blue Surprise, 37½ cents per quart; Washington, Kent, June, Double Blossom Frame, Bishop's Dwarf Prolific, and Strawberry, each 25 cents per quart.

GENERAL CROP—Harrison's Glory and Perfection, (both new,) Hair's Dwarf Mammoth Marrow, (extra fine) each 50 cents per quart; Napoleon and Eugenie, (both new and fine) 75 cents per quart; Fairbeard's Early Champion of England, (the finest wrinkled variety known,) 37½ cents per quart.

LATE SORTS—Epp's Monarch, 75 cents per quart; British Queen and Knight's Marrow, each 50 cents. The above comprising but a part of my assortment, for which see my catalogue.

Also, Extra Early and Early Beets, Early and Late Cabbages, Cauliflowers, Broccoli, Celery, Tomatoes, Cucumbers, Egg Plant, Lettuces, Turnips, Peppers, Radishes, Herb Seeds, &c., &c., in large or small quantities: Garden Beans of all sorts, Early, Late, Bush, and Pole.

Fine large Lima Beans, (a few) at 50 cents per quart. Sweet or Sugar Corn of the best sorts for the garden. The Gigantic Constantinople is particularly fine—25 cents per quart.

Indian Corn of the best sorts for the Field.

Millet Seed, Long Brush Broom Corn, Luzerne or French Clover, White Dutch Clover, Red Clover and Timothy, Red Top or Herds Grass, Orchard Grass and Mixed Grass for Lawns, English Rye Grass, Spring Vetches and Sun-Flower, White and Yellow Onion Sets and Top Onions.

Best Improved Ruta Baga and other Turnips, 75 cents per pound; Long Orange, Large White and other Carrots, \$1 per pound; Onion Seed (a limited supply)—Large Red at \$1.25—Large Yellow, \$1.50, and White Portugal at \$2 per pound. Long Red and Yellow Globe Mangold Wurzel, White and Yellow Sugar Beet, Honey Locust, Buckthorn and Osage Orange Seeds for live fences, Yellow Locust for timber and Locust posts, with a large assortment of Choice Flower Seeds, of which a choice and liberal assortment will be sent by mail for \$1 or upwards, and postage paid.

Spring planting Bulbs, viz Amaryllis, Gladiolus, Tiger Flower, Tuberoses and Madelra vines.

Choice Double Dahlias—named varieties \$3 per dozen.

The best standard books on Poultry, Kitchen Gardening, cultivation of Fruit Trees and Flowers.

Imphee or New African Sugar Cane, (genuine at \$1 per pound)

Sorghum or Chinese Sugar Cane, 50 cents per pound. Chufas or Earth Almonds, 25 cents per ounce.

Clean Strawberry seed, (mixed sorts,) \$2 per ounce.

The true Christina Musk Melon, at 50 cents per ounce; also the new Orange Water Melon, with many other articles too numerous to be detailed in the confined limits of an advertisement.

Full reference is made to my new descriptive priced Catalogue for 1858, which will be mailed to all applicants.

The subscriber, thankful for the patronage he has received for the past 27 years, hopes to merit a continuance of the same from former, as well as new customers.

Orders received for Wilson's celebrated **ALBANY SEEDLING STRAWBERRY**. Can be planted to greatest advantage in the spring. Price \$2 per 100—\$15 per 1,000 plants.

WILLIAM THORBURN,

Seedsman & Florist, 492 Broadway, Albany, N. Y.

Small packages of Seeds carefully enveloped, and forwarded by mail.

March 11—w8tm2t

Agricultural and Horticultural Implements.

IN ADDITION to the great variety of Plows, Harrows, Rollers, Seed Sowers, Cultivators, Draining Tools, &c., &c., usually found at my warehouse; the subscriber has recently introduced some

New and Improved kinds

of Implements, both for the Field and Garden, which he will be happy to show to his friends and customers. Also

Garden and Flower-Bed Tools,

a large assortment of the best and most approved kinds, an enumeration of which is unnecessary, considering my large and well known establishment.

R. L. ALLEN,

Mar. 25—weow3tm2t 189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

Fourth Annual Catalogue

Of Thorough-Bred North Devon Cattle,

THE PROPERTY OF

C. S. WAINWRIGHT, The Meadows, Rhinebeck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

THE subscriber has just issued his Catalogue for the present season, containing full pedigrees of all the animals composing his herd at this date, terms of sale, &c. He offers at *private sale*, some half a dozen young bulls, and about the same number of females, all of them of the very first quality, and either bred or imported by himself.

Copies, with the prices marked against such animals as are for sale, may be had by addressing him as above.

April 1—w&m3m

C. S. WAINWRIGHT.

Garden, Field & Flower Seeds.

THE subscriber offers a full assortment of GARDEN, FIELD and FLOWER SEEDS of the growth of 1857, and of the very best qualities, and in addition to all the standard varieties, will be found many novelties, for sale Wholesale and Retail. Orders by mail attended to immediately.

PEAS—choice and new varieties, Extra Early Daniel O'Rourke, Champion of England, Carter's Victoria, Hair's Defiance, Dwarf Sugar, Tall Sugar, Hair's Dwarf Blue Mammoth, Harrison's Glory, Harrison's Perfection, Epps' Monarch, Epps' Lord Raglan, British Queen, with all other varieties.

CAULIFLOWER—Early Paris, Nonpareil and Alma.

CABBAGE—Early Wakefield, Early Ox Heart, Enfield Market and Winningstadt.

CORN—King Philip, Early Darling's, Constantinople and Stowell's Evergreen.

TURNIPS—Ashcroft's Swede, Rivers' Swedish Stubble and Waite's Eclipse.

Prize Cucumbers for frames.

Winter Cherry or Strawberry Tomato.

New-Zealand Spinach.

Potato Seed—German and English.

OATS—Poland, Potato and other choice varieties.

POTATOES—Prince Albert's, which we highly recommend, (Ash Leaf Kidney, imported,) Early Dikeman, Early June, Dover, Mercer, and all other varieties.

SPRING WHEAT—Golden Drop or Fife, Sea, Canada Club, &c.

SPRING BARLEY, SPRING RYE.

TOBACCO SEED—Havana and Connecticut Seed Leaf.

SPRING and WINTER VETCHES or TARES—Broom Corn, Buckwheat, Cotton Seed, &c.

FRUIT SEEDS—Apple, Pear, Quince, Currant, Gooseberry, Raspberry and Strawberry Seed, Peach, Plum, and Apricot Pits.

OSAGE ORANGE, Buckthorn, Yellow and Honey Locust, Chinese Arbor Vitæ.

GRASS SEEDS—Hungarian and American Millet, Green, Kentucky Blue or June, Orchard, Ray, Italian and Perennial, Foul Meadow, Sweet Scented Vernal, Fine Mixed Lawn, Red Top, Timothy or Herds, &c.

CLOVERS—Large and Medium Red, White Dutch, Luzerne or French Sanfoin, Alsike, Crimson, Yellow Trefoil, &c.

ONION SETTS—Red and Yellow, Top or Button, and Potato Onions.

RHUBARB ROOTS—Myatt's Victoria and Linnaeus, Imported.

ASPARAGUS ROOTS, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Egg and Tomato Plants furnished in season.

Everything in my line furnished and at reasonable rates.

A Catalogue containing a full list of seeds and prices furnished on application.

African Imphee—genuine as raised by Leonard M. Wray, One Dollar per pound.

Chinese Sugar Cane—American and Imported, 25 and 40 cents per pound.

R. L. ALLEN.

March 18—weow3tm2t 189 & 191 Water-st., New-York.

**SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME,
BONE DUST,
COLUMBIAN GUANO,**
FOR SALE by **A. LONGETT,**
March 1—m3t 34 Cliff Street, New-York.

**PERUVIAN GUANO,
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME,
POUDRETTE,
LAND PLASTER,
FISH AND OTHER GUANOS,
Fertilizers of all kinds.**

R. L. ALLEN,
March 18—weow3tm2t 189 & 191 Water-st., New-York

**PURE BONE, (by the Barrel,)
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME,
POUDRETTE, PLASTER, &c.
FARM AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS,**
Among which may be found *Mapes' new and improved
Subsoil Plow and Knox's Horse Hoe.*

**FIELD AND GARDEN SEEDS,
PURE PRINCE ALBERT POTATOES, &c.,**
At the North River Agricultural Warehouse.
GRIFFING BROTHER & CO.,
Mar. 18—w&m3m 60 Cortlandt-st., New-York City

SOMBRERO GUANO.
Imported and for sale by **WOOD & GRANT, 90
Front Street, New-York.**

THE several analyses of this Guano, made by the most eminent Chemists of this country, viz: Profs. Hayes of Boston, J. R. Chilton and Isaiah Deck of New York, Booth of Philadelphia, Piggot of Baltimore, Maupin and Tuttle of University of Virginia, M. P. Scott of Richmond, Va., and Gilliam of the Military Institute of Lexington, Va., all show it to contain over 80 per cent. of the Bone Phosphate of Lime.

To Farmers desirous of testing its qualities, we will forward our Pamphlet when requested, containing a full statement of its merits, value and manner of application. The Planters and Farmers of Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Alabama and Georgia, highly appreciate such fertilizers, having used them with profit for the last five years.

The attention of Dealers and Country Storekeepers is called to this article. March 4—w9tm2t

To Farmers and Gardeners.

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for sale 60,000 barrels of their

New and Improved Poudrette,

Manufactured from the night-soil of New-York city, in lots to suit purchasers. This article (greatly improved within the last three years) has been in the market for 19 years, and still defies competition, as a manure for Corn and Garden Vegetables, being CHEAPER, more powerful than any other, and at the same time free from disagreeable odor. Two barrels (\$3 worth,) will manure an acre of corn in the hill, will save two thirds in labor, will cause it to come up quicker, to grow faster, ripen earlier, and will bring a larger crop on poor ground than any other fertilizer, and is also a preventive of the cut-worm; also it does not injure the seed to be put in contact with it.

The L. M. Co. point to their long-standing reputation, and the large capital (\$100,000) invested in their business, as a guarantee that the article they make shall always be of such quality as to command a ready sale.

Price, delivered in the city free of charge and other expense—

One barrel,.....	\$2 00
Two barrels,.....	3 50
Five barrels,.....	8 00
Six barrels,.....	9 50

And at the rate of \$1.50 per barrel for any quantity over six barrels.

A Pamphlet containing every information, will be sent (FREE) to any one applying for the same. Our address is **THE LODI MANUFACTURING CO.,**
Feb. 25—weow6tm3t Office, 60 Cortlandt-st., New-York.

Agricultural Books,

Of all kinds, for sale at the Office of the Co. Gentleman.

POUDRETTE.

OUR prices for the above valuable fertilizer, viz:—For one barrel, \$2—two barrels, \$3.50—three barrels, \$5—four barrels, \$6.50—five barrels, \$8—six barrels, \$9.50—for seven barrels and over, at the rate of \$1.50 per barrel, delivered free of cartage. Send your orders early to

GRIFFING BROTHER & CO.,
Feb. 25—w8tm3t 60 Cortlandt-st., New-York.

No. 1 Pure Peruvian Guano.

HAVING purchased a large quantity of the above valuable Fertilizer, we are prepared to furnish Farmers and Dealers in lots to suit, from 1 to 500 tons, at less than Peruvian Agents' prices.

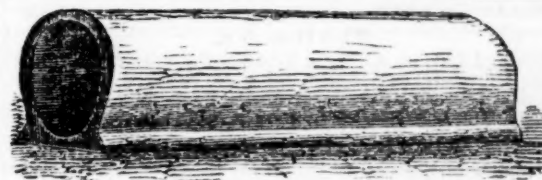
GRIFFING BROTHER & CO.,
March 25—w8tm2t 60 Cortlandt-st., New-York City.

Devon Prize Bull for Sale.

THE subscribers offer for sale their Prize Bull "New Britain 2d." He received the first prize as a yearling, at the late Fair of the Conn. State Agricultural Society. He will be two years old next March; is of good size, and is a very perfect animal.

We also would sell "Charter Oak," he is own brother to New Britain 2d, and will be one year old next March.

WELLS BROTHERS,
March 1—m3t New-Britain, Conn.



ALBANY TILE WORKS,

Corner of Clinton Avenue & Knox St., Albany, N. Y.

THE subscribers, being the most extensive manufacturers of Draining Tile in the United States, have on hand, in large or small quantities for Land Draining, the following descriptions, warranted superior to any made in this country, hard burned, and over one foot in length. On orders for 5,000 or more, a discount will be made.

HORSE-SHOE TILE—PIECES.	SOLE TILE—PIECES.
2 1/2 inches rise,-- \$12 per 1000.	2 inches rise,-- \$12 per 1000.
3 " " " 15 " 3 " " " 18 "	
4 " " " 18 " 4 " " " 40 "	
5 " " " 40 " 5 " " " 60 "	
6 " " " 60 " 6 " " " 80 "	
7 1/2 " " " 75 " 8 " " " 125 "	

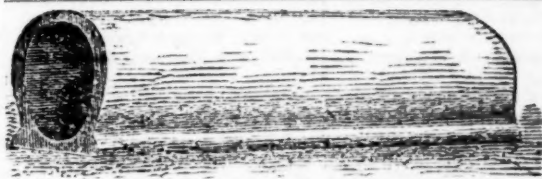
Orders respectfully solicited. Cartage free.

C. & W. McCAMMON,

Albany, N. Y.

PEASE & EGGLESTON, Agents,

Excelsior Ag. Works, Warehouse and Seed Store,
Mar. 1—w&m8m. 84 State-st., Albany, N. Y.



New-York State Tile Works,

On the Western Plank Road near the Orphan Asylum.

THE subscribers still continue the manufacture and sale of Draining Tile for land draining, in large or small quantities, warranted hard-burnt and perfectly sound, and altogether superior to any made in America; if not, the purchaser need not pay for them. On orders for 5,000 or more a discount will be made.

N. B. These Tile are made of pure clay, and very strong.

HORSE-SHOE TILE—PIECES.	SOLE TILE—PIECES.
2 1/2 in. calibre,-- \$12 per 1,000.	2 in. calibre,-- \$12 per 1,000
3 " " " 15 " 3 " " " 18 "	
4 " " " 18 " 4 " " " 40 "	
5 " " " 40 " 5 " " " 60 "	
6 " " " 60 " 6 " " " 80 "	
7 1/2 " " " 75 " 8 " " " 125 "	

Orders thankfully received and promptly attended to. Cartage free.

ALDERSON & JACKSON,

Albany, N. Y.

EMERY BROS. Agents, Proprietors Albany Agricultural Warehouse, 52 State street, cor. Green.

April 8—w2m—eow2m—w2m—m6t.

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Hungarian Hay or Grass Seed.

WE offer a large quantity of this celebrated Hay seed for sale, at \$3.25 per bushel, which was grown last season very extensively in different parts of the country, and yielded from 4 to 6 tons of hay to the acre, equal, if not better than our first class Timothy hay. Sow in the spring, and ripens during July and August.

PEASE & EGGLESTON,
84 State-st., Albany, N. Y.

STEEL Horse Hoes—three sizes—for sale at Agricultural Depot, 100 Murray-st., New-York.
April 15—w2tm1t HENRY F. DIBBLEE.

Dioscorea—Chinese Rice Potato.

THE FRENCH AND AMERICAN INSTITUTES having awarded their Medals for this esculent, and having made reports confirming its vast importance to every farmer "as more than a substitute for all other potatoes," we now offer it as the greatest vegetable boon ever tendered by God to man, and urge its universal culture upon the Nation and upon the most Northern British Provinces. Tubers \$5 per 100—Roots \$10 per 4 lbs. Directions for culture, which is simpler than for the Potato, will be sent.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO.,
April 22—w1tm1t* Flushing, N. Y.

SUPERIOR STRAWBERRIES.

WM. R. PRINCE & CO., Flushing, N. Y., offer the following at 25 cts. per dozen—\$1 per 100—\$4 to \$5 per 1,000.

Bishop's Orange, Burr's New Pine, Chester, Crimson Cone, Climax Scarlet, Dundee, English Red and White Wood, Genesee, Hovey, Hudson, Iowa or Washington, Large Early Scarlet, Longworth's Prolific, McAvoy's Superior, McAvoy's Extra, McAvoy's No. 1, Monroe Scarlet, Moyamensing, Myatt's Prolific Hautbois, Rival Hudson, Schneikes Pistillate, Scott's Seedling, Walker's Seedling.

The following at 38 cts. per dozen—\$1.50 per 100:—

Burr's Scarlet Melting, Orange Prolific, Prolific or Twice Bearing Hautbois, Alpine, (Red and White,) Rhode Island Seedling, Wilson's Albany, Malvina, Scarlet Cone, Young's Germantown.

The following at 50 cents per dozen—\$1.50 per 100:—

Hooker's Seedling, Primate, Reed's Pine, Victoria, (Trollope's.)

The following at 75 cents per dozen—\$3 per 100.

Boyd's Mammoth, French Large White, Charles' Favorite, Jenny Lind, Globose Scarlet, Harlem Orange, Ladies' Pine, Omar Pasha, Nicholson's Fillbasket, Sir Harry, Vicomtesse Hericart, Peabody's Seedling. \$1.50 per doz.—\$8 per 100, Prince's Scarlet Magnate and Imperial Scarlet; 60 cents per dozen—\$2.50 per 100—\$15 per 1,000, Le Baron, Diadem, Eclipse, Large Blush Pine, Crystal Palace, Scarlet Nonpareil, Sir Charles Napier, \$1 per dozen; Prince's Climax, \$2 per dozen; Champion, Carolina Superba, Marylandica, Rosalind, Sir Adair, Sirius, \$1.50 per dozen.

For other rare varieties, see Descriptive Catalogue, which also comprises a rejected list of foreign and native varieties.

April 22—w1tm1t*

CARROT Weeders or Root Cleaners—three sizes—for sale at Ag. Depot, 100 Murray-st., New-York.
April 15—w2tm1t HENRY F. DIBBLEE.

100,000 POUNDS**New Southern Chinese Sugar Cane Seed,**

FOR SALE very cheap by

PEASE & EGGLESTON,

84 State-st., Albany, N. Y.

Also PURE PERUVIAN GUANO by the Ton or small quantity.

Parties having any articles on consignment with the subscriber, are notified that they will be sold for charges unless removed by 1st May next.

April 22—w3tm1t RICH'D H. PEASE, Albany.

CHINESE PIGS,

OF pure blood, for sale by

HORACE HUMPHREY,

April 22—w1tm1t* Winchester Center, Conn.

**PERUVIAN GUANO,
ELIDE ISLAND GUANO,
SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME,
BONE DUST,
WOOL AND BLOOD MANURE,
Agricultural Implements,**

FOR sale by A. LONGETT,
No. 34 Cliff-st., corner of Fulton, New-York.
May 1—m1t

Three Hundred and thirty-six pages, and Four Hundred and forty Engravings.

RURAL AFFAIRS.

A COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA IN MINIATURE for every man with a Farm, a Garden, or a Domestic Animal—for every Place which will grow a Flower or a Fruit-tree—for every Purchaser or Builder in the Country, and for every Household in the City, delighting in representations or looking forward with hopes of Rural Life. Embracing

RURAL ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPE GARDENING, FRUIT CULTURE, ORNAMENTAL PLANTING, BEST FRUITS AND FLOWERS, IMPLEMENTS & MACHINERY, FARM ECONOMY, DOMESTIC ANIMALS, FARM BUILDINGS, HINTS FOR CULTIVATORS.

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